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The Library Journal

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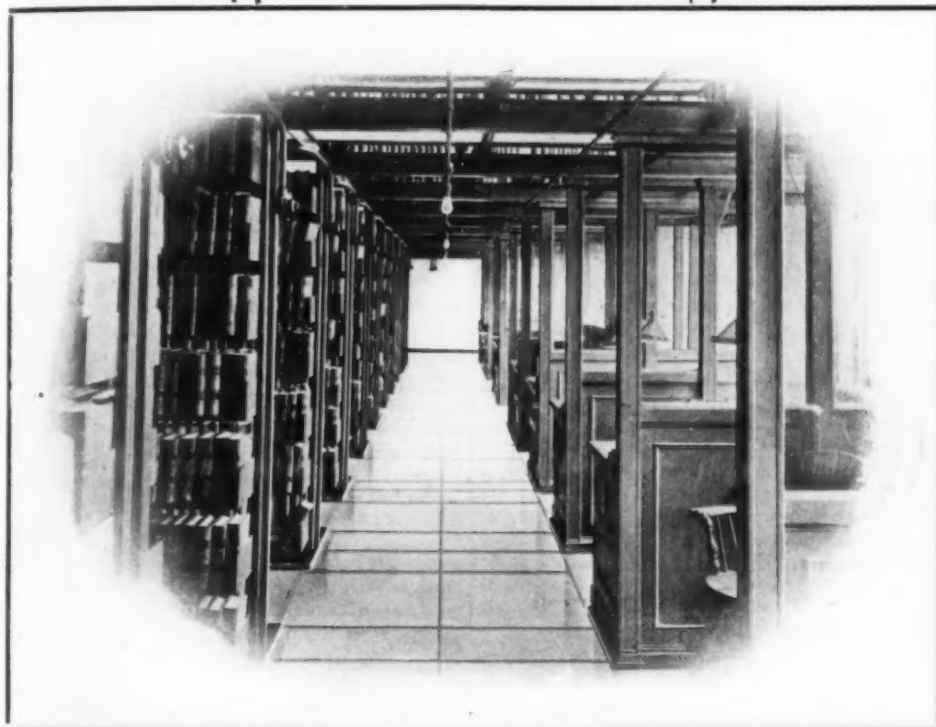
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE adoption of the new A. L. A. constitution should be one of the most important results of the Bretton Woods Conference. The uncertain division of authority between the Executive Board and the Council, and the existence of the Institute with the purpose of fulfilling the functions which the Council had not achieved, have made the national organization of the library profession rather multifarious and confusing. If the Executive Board becomes really the executive agency and the Council becomes as originally planned, a deliberative body, acting as a balance wheel for the general meetings, now so large as to be unwieldy either for adequate deliberation or careful decision, the Association should be in much more efficient and effective shape. The principle of including in the Council all Past Presidents, to insure experience and continuity, members elected by the Council itself, representing other leaders of the profession and members chosen by the general body representing probably the later comers who are winning their way to the front, in addition to the Executive Board of the year, should insure stability, sagacity, and vigor—foresight as well as hindsight—to the new body.

The danger foreseen for the Institute, by the many who opposed the creation of such a body and who were corralled one by one almost from sheer exhaustion of opposition, would have been more serious had the Institute enjoyed a more vigorous existence. The fact that after the A. L. A. constitution had been reported by a large and representative committee as the result of much discussion, and had been passed upon favorably at one meeting of the Association, a member of the Institute could seriously present in that body a complete redraft of the A. L. A. constitution and ask for its discussion by the Institute, is sufficient illustration of the danger pointed out, that the A. L. A. might be weakened by having responsibility taken from it by a co-ordinate organization quite separate

from and not responsible to the general Association. As a matter of fact, during its entire existence, the Institute has had only two profitable sessions, the successful meeting of Atlantic City and part of the New York meeting; and at neither of these were the discussions of a character which could not be had from the new form of Council. The three-fourths vote required for any decision has practically blocked action, for the secretary has found it almost impossible to obtain such a vote even with respect to the continuance or discontinuance of the Institute. Under these circumstances the Institute is likely to come to its end from mere lack of vitality if it does not of its own volition gracefully retire from this mortal life.

CO-ORDINATION, of which President Gould has made himself the leading apostle, is likely to be the watchword not only of the Bretton Woods Conference, but of the most important library work of the present library generation. The physical problem of shelf room for the mere housing of books is becoming an almost insoluble problem, as it confronts the librarian with an imaginative outlook on the future. How happy for the librarian of to-day that the printing press does not date from the Garden of Eden, that the clay libraries of Assyria were for the most part cracked to pieces, and that as a matter of fact printing was not invented until four centuries ago! Library accumulation is in fact only a matter of a single century, and every year of grace nowadays produces an output as great, we should guess, as the entire output of the first quarter of the last century. At this rate of book production, it seems almost a matter of thankfulness that modern papers do not last forever, and indeed only for a few years. But Mr. Chivers is to correct all that, and with papers that will last and stack houses that must be limited, what will come to pass! We of to-day can "hazard only a wide solution" and leave the final outcome to our suc-

cessors in the *fin de siècle* of the twentieth century. Meantime co-ordination, that self-restraint on the part of most libraries which will cause them to mind their own business and look to national, state and special libraries as great storehouses and reservoirs of books, must be the present issue.

Nor only is technical co-operation in the study of methods giving place to co-ordination, which is co-operation in the largest sense, but all technical problems are making way for larger consideration of the book and of the man or woman who handles it or reads it. The library profession is passing, as it were, from the primary class dealing with shelves and book numbers to the higher class dealing with books as life factors and with the human lives in which they are to be helpful. In other words, the technical side of librarianship must be supplemented by the literary side and the human side, and in this connection Miss Keller gives us some delightful suggestions. The average librarian of the old school, who knows little about technicalities, is often superior in knowing a good deal about her books and still more about the people who come to her for the right book. In the larger libraries, a chief purpose of staff meetings should be to discuss books and to develop the human touch of librarians with each other and with their readers. The problem of really knowing readers and their real wants, in a great city library, is a most-difficult one, and we are by no means in sight of the right way of dealing with this question. Possibly library advisors for readers will be one of the future developments of the library system.

IN selecting a librarian, the personal equation and this question of human relationship must always be kept in mind, for places great or small. It is the defect of a professional school that it cannot always test this element in connection with its certificate of graduation. The theological schools, for instance, give diplomas to many men who are quite unfit to become spiritual advisers. And perhaps the library schools through their experience work in libraries come as near to accomplishing this desirable result as any schools

can. It is a criticism of the English army system, and to some extent of our own West Point, that officers are sent out who have not the personal capacity to command. In the German and Swedish armies, besides the test of military schools, each candidate for an army position must serve during the school vacation as a petty officer in actual command of men, and the ranking from this experience is an important element in the final certificate. In somewhat the same way actual experience in library work with reference to this personal equation should come largely into play in certifying to a librarian's qualifications. In this respect the apprentice classes in our larger library systems have a considerable advantage.

THE question of certification of librarians has never come much to the front in this country, as the American Library Association has held back from attempts in this direction, and the plan for state certification in Ohio has gone over to another session of the legislature. The Ohio plan proposes to include service in libraries as a part of its scheme, and this is wise. Our English brethren are proposing to solve the problem in connection with the Library Association of the United Kingdom by providing for classes of membership, based on library service and position, through a systematic scheme of registration, preceded in the earlier stages by careful examinations. In view of the trend in Ohio, California, and elsewhere, toward the official certification or registration of librarians, the English discussions will be followed with interest. A word of caution is perhaps necessary that the profession should not be so organized or conventionalized as to exclude from it at any stage those who have every qualification for librarianship except technical library experience. In other words, the library profession should not deny itself the privilege of drafting librarians from "the executive profession" and enlisting men and women who by personal temperament and outside training are only less well fitted for library work than those who combine technical experience with these high qualities. High qualities are indeed needed for this high calling—a calling worthy of all that the noblest man or woman can give to their work.

THE OLD-FASHIONED VIRTUES VERSUS THE IDEAL LIBRARIAN*

BY HELEN REX KELLER, *Instructor Drexel Institute Library School*

FELLOW workers, real librarians of the Pennsylvania Library Club, I ask your attention and sympathy for my unsympathetic analysis of that paragon of perfection, that aggregation of library virtues, the ideal librarian.

As in the beginnings of all great peoples there are legends and myths, so we librarians have ours, the myth of the ideal librarian. There is no mention of her among the nine muses in the classical dictionaries, and no mortal eye has ever seen the ideal librarian, though her presence is invoked wherever are the campfires of our tribe.

All our library lives, at library meetings, at staff meetings, in library school, the tale is told. The Elsie and the Sanfords and Mertons have disappeared from the shelves of our libraries, but the archives of librarianship, the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* and *Public Libraries*, devote pages to the biography and higher criticism of this phantom of reality.

In library school one is apt to arrive at an understanding of her personality in a negative way, by hearing what the ideal librarian is *Not*, the things she does not do. At any rate we are only too familiar with the catalog of her qualifications as written, spoken, even sung, as in the "Song of the library staff" by our librarian poet, Mr. Sam Walter Foss. This poem, recently acted in pantomime by Drexel alumnae, appeared on the program as "Moving pictures, a refined first-class vaudeville performance, a screaming hit." Thus are our ideals satirized by the younger generation. The ideal librarian has also been immortalized as the heroine of a drama in blank verse "The militant librarian," by Miss Smith and Miss Fay, of the New York State Library School.

With apologies to Mr. Howells, I give you the ideal librarian. She has been evolved at considerable pains and expense from the librarian in general, and in fact is a type. She is made up of printer's ink and paper and wire and cardboard, very prettily painted

in a conventional tint, and is perfectly indestructible. She isn't very much like a real librarian, but she is a great deal nicer and has served to represent the notion of a librarian ever since librarians emerged from barbarism with the founding of the American Library Association in 1876.

Of course we know the reason that as a class we are so much more charming than other people is because the circumstances of our life work develop such old-fashioned virtues as kindness, sympathy, and helpfulness, and we enjoy having it brought to our notice, as it is when some one of us tells the rest of us how we look in a composite photograph. But the novelty of the composite picture, the photograph of the class, of the type, is gone. It has passed by in the art collection of to-day for the greater interest of the photographs of real people which are so wonderfully expressive of character and personality. The painter who makes a pretty picture rather than a true portrait is a century behind the times. The biographer who makes his hero a model of all the virtues with the endearing human faults left out is not read any more.

One reason that we insist on "personality" in library work is because the pioneers of the American Library Association have been such splendid, strong, real, inspiring personalities. It is quite possible that the ideal librarian of to-day is a composite picture of a group of them, taken before the days of improved photography, a picture with everything human left out, the kind of which we say "how natural the buttons on her coat do look; you can see every figure in the pattern of his tie." If we separate the individual members from the group picture, we can see that no one of them possessed a monopoly of all the virtues. The ideal librarian is weighed down with virtues like a knight of old with armor, most ornamental in a fancy picture, but cumbersome for everyday use.

The qualifications of the ideal librarian are not so impressive, taken one by one. It is their quantity that makes her such a blight-

*Read at a meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club, May 10, 1909.

ing influence. Let me recall to you her neat personal appearance, her cordial but not familiar manner with the public across the loan desk, as described let us say by the chief bibliographer, who is sufficiently far removed from the issue department to have a really ideal perspective on the ideal librarian, and on the public, to have a theory not a condition. When we speak of the ideal loan desk assistant, we mean the ideal librarian at the loan desk. It is there that she is most often pictured by her Boswells. Of course the ideal librarian can fill any position in the library, as she is wonderfully adaptable, besides being omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent, and always working overtime at something with superhuman energy and enthusiasm.

The ideal librarian has an unfailing supply of Tact, spelled with a capital T. Mr. Dewey, in his lecture on the "Qualifications of a librarian," mentions tact as "two to one more important than mere talent." He speaks of tact as essential before he mentions that the librarian must not be addicted to alcohol, drugs, tobacco, gambling, profanity or vulgarity—library failings we all deplore.

In certain latter day usage of the word, tact has come to mean using tactics, manœuvring a little to make the other fellow see or do things as we wish, rather assuming that the other fellow is not quite as smart as we are, and can be managed. In the best sense, I think we understand by the tactful person, one who always says or does the proper thing at the proper time, meaning the right thing, the kind thing. The dictionary says that courtesy and politeness are indispensable elements of tact. It sounds so trite, so commonplace, to say, "Be kind and thoughtful for others," and it sounds so superior to say a person has tact. In the process of making the individual into the type, kindness, the quality of thoughtfulness for others has become tact, just as red, the primary color, may be diluted to pink. Kindness is not entirely synonymous with tact, but mixed with some brains it makes an excellent substitute. Consider, for example, a really awful example, the person whose mind has become warped by dwelling upon the ideal librarian, possibly writing a paper on the subject giving good advice to other

librarians, until she thinks she herself is the ideal librarian. You can imagine how this would work. Tact flies out of the window when Pride struts in at the door. Now, if thinking unduly of one's self is not the opposite of thinking of others, I am willing to give up my contention that kindness can be substituted for tact, so that nine times out of ten, the person who is uniformly kind and considerate will be mistaken in A. L. A. circles for a person with tact. Matthew Arnold used to think that kindness contained almost all the other Christian virtues. Moral: If you can't be both, be kind, "sweet maid, and let who will be clever."

Maturity is spoken of in a recent most interesting paper on this subject, as the first requisite for a successful loan desk assistant. Library boards often state that they want for a librarian, "a man in the prime of life." In this connection I can only say that seven hours a day on the books of our libraries becomes seventy times seven in course of time, and that we all of us hope to be on a pension list for aged librarians some day. The most hopelessly young person will attain maturity, given a reasonable number of years. Time will remedy this defect. It is one of the things that is done while you wait.

Enthusiasm is a most desirable and essential qualification for library work, and how it does enliven the cold monotony of perfection of the ideal librarian. Instead of asking nowadays if a librarian is interested in her work, has the old-fashioned quality of zeal, we put the cart before the horse and ask if she has enthusiasm. We glorify the appearance of the thing rather than the thing itself, cultivate enthusiasm for enthusiasm's sake as a separate library virtue.

One hears complaints from library workers about their salaries, hours, vacations, but never of their work. We recognize our compensations and blessings. Interest in one's work generates enthusiasm, and most of us have a good supply to order, but some of us refuse to spend it as library fireworks. If enthusiasm is not apparent on the surface of things, it is because our everyday work requires time, energy, and enthusiasm of the quiet workaday kind which accomplishes results, and we haven't time to tell everybody

about it because we are too busy doing things.

Library work does not at present attract archangels, and I wish to tell you a true story illustrating the futility of expecting them to apply for positions.

One upon a time a certain library, a perfectly safe distance from here, was about to open a children's room. The children's librarian to be was sent by the library board to visit other libraries, to observe and get new ideas; and in one library, where the children's room is a real paradise for real children, she acquired a printed slip which read something like this:

Card catalog of the staff to be filled out by heads of departments and branch librarians.

Has she tact?

Has she enthusiasm?

Has she method and system?

Is she punctual?

Is she neat?

Is she kind?

Is she a good disciplinarian?

Is she sympathetic?

Is she quick?

Is she willing to wear rubber heels?

Is she a good worker?

Is she accurate?

Has she a pleasing personality?

Has she a sense of responsibility?

Is she patient?

Is she courteous?

Has she self-control?

Is she cheerful?

Has she a knowledge of books?

Are her vibrations pleasant?

Has she executive ability?

Can she speak French, German, Spanish, Italian, Yiddish, Hebrew, Greek, Sanskrit?

Has she social qualifications?

Can she keep a petty cash account?

What are her faults?

On her return to her home library the first thing to be done was to select an assistant. It had seemed that the only difficulty would be that in choosing one from an unusually pleasant and capable group of library assistants, the others must necessarily be rejected. With the printed slip in hand, the ideal librarian in mind, selection became quite a different matter. In her perplexity

she sent to the A. L. A. headquarters for a pair of library spectacles in order to see quite clearly to choose or refuse. Looking through them, what was her disappointment to find that all the staff were either too tall or too short, too fat or too thin, all sorts of odd shapes, but nobody was standard size. No one person could make more than half the requirements. The one who could claim the highest number had been obliged to spread them out so thin that it was doubtful if the garment of her laborious weaving would hold together at all. In the meantime it would surprise you the way interest in children's work declined in that library. When I last heard from there a girl from the high school was coming in to work afternoons because no one of the regular staff was willing to work in the children's room.

So much for fact. In fiction we are pictured either as the old foggy bookworm, or the ideal librarian, as in Josephine Daskam's "Little brother of the books" and Dorothy Canfield's "Hillsboro's luck." Both types must go before the downtrodden average, ordinary, human librarian can have a fair chance. In Miss Daskam's story the librarian who worships method and system unduly responds to the humanizing influence of a little lame boy who loves reading and has become the selector of books and library friend of young and old in the community. In "Hillsboro's luck," by Dorothy Canfield, the ideal librarian has an ideal library, a seemingly ideal combination. "The young librarian arrived from Albany permeated with the missionary spirit," "as business like as she was pretty," "in a fresh white shirtwaist." "She began at once to practice all the latest devices for automatically turning a benighted community into the latest thing in culture." When "the little girls in school asked for the Elsie books she answered with a glow of pride that the library did not possess one of those silly stories, and offered as a substitute 'Greek myths for children.'" "When the school boys asked for Nick Carter, she gave them those classics, the 'Rollo books.'" She "mingled with the people," "had little classes in art criticism for the young ladies in town." I believe they study Botticelli. She had none of the library failings previously mentioned. It was the janitor who was

addicted to profanity and strong drink, and finally set fire to the library. The Hillsboro people, not being ideal enough to match the ideal library, as manager by the ideal librarian, the effects were so demoralizing to their standards that the library had to be burned down, and the ideal librarian married off to make a good ending to the story.

"All knowledge is our province." If the time necessary to live up to this ideal was reckoned in our library education, we should pass from the training school directly on to the pension list for aged librarians without any intermediate time in a library position. It is never mentioned in any of her testimonials, but in the very nature of the case the ideal librarian must be a bluffer. The real librarian who masters the gentle art of bluffing knows that you cannot bluff all of the people all of the time without a solid foundation of good work and hard work. The librarian from Podunk, if she has imagination and can talk her library sufficiently at library meetings, "How I do this and that in My library," may by these modern methods of advertising and library log rolling become known as an ideal librarian.

I want to suggest that the future of this kind of a bluffer is not likely to be as rosy as the past, even at a distance from her base of operations. There comes inevitably a time when she loses her sense of values, of such good old-fashioned virtues as truthfulness and honesty. On the theory that what happens in a person is of vastly greater consequence than what happens to a person, remember one may bluff other people, but one must never cross the danger line of bluffing one's self, impairing one's own clear vision through the desire to make one's self or one's work interesting. Physicians call this exaggerated imagination "Mythomania." Question—if the ideal librarian is a myth, is she also a mythomaniac? or are we ourselves the victims of a genie, creation of our own imaginations, which has assumed gigantic proportions, like the genie of the fisherman in the fable; so that we must either change the real to suit the stereotyped ideal, or change the ideal to suit an ever-changing, growing, developing real?

The ideal librarian is not a working model

—she is not pragmatic. She does not make us better or wiser or happier. To be really useful she must become a symbol of a state of grace to be realized in the mental experience of each individual, and the best literature on the subject is contained in Emerson's essay on Character, which to be thoroughly up to date we will call personality.

The ideal person for a librarian is distinguished above the rest of us by the cultivation by persistent effort of such common, old-fashioned virtues as Kindness, Order, Zeal, Energy, Self-Control, Honesty, combined with Education, Self-Culture, and the "light of the lamp of experience." These old-fashioned virtues, quite within the reach of the average library worker, cultivated to a marked degree, make for marked success, and the library is the best possible training school for life and for library work. The ideals that are practical are personal. I recommend this kind of gardening from a practical, not an ideal standpoint.

In the introduction to the first of the series, "Modern American library economy as illustrated by the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library," Mr. Dana begins:

"Were there an ideal public library, managed in an ideal way, with ideal assistants, furniture, blanks and general equipment, a detailed description of it would be of great value. As there is no ideal library I have come to the conclusion, after considering the subject for a number of years, that a full description of the actual work of a large library would be very helpful to librarians and students of library economy, more helpful even than the description of an imaginary or composite one. This pamphlet, 'The work of the registration desk,' by Miss Van der Carr, is the first part of such a description."

When the ideal librarian, who reads all library literature the minute it comes out, got this far, she shrieked, "Shade of Justin Winsor! No ideal library, no ideal assistants, no ideal furniture, blanks, equipment!" Whereat, with the ghost of a wink in the direction of the Los Angeles (Cal.) Public Library, she turned her back on the Land-of-things-as-they-are, spread her wings and flew away with Peter Pan to the "Never-never land."

THE NECESSITY OF STAFF MEETINGS*

I.

BY MARY L. DAVIS, *Librarian of the Troy (N. Y.) Public Library*

VERY little has been written on the subject of meetings and classes conducted in our libraries. An examination of the recent annual reports of more than thirty libraries shows that nearly a third makes brief record of such meetings, and also reveals the indefinite use of the terms meetings and classes.

It will help to a clearer discussion of our subject if we draw a line between meetings conducted chiefly with administrative objects in view, and those held for the purpose of giving instruction, or sharing information on some topic, or topics, of interest to library assistants. These latter may be properly termed classes and omitted for the present from the discussion, though meetings and classes may easily merge, one into the other. We will also leave on one side for present purposes the very large library, with its elaborate system of superintendents, department heads, and assistants of various grades, and turn our attention to the medium-sized, or small, library, with, let us say, a staff of not over ten persons, and probably of nearer half that number.

Now, what can we get from staff meetings in the library of that size? Replying to one question by another, in Yankee fashion, What sort of staff do we want? Do we want our library assistants to be "mere couplings, connecting-rods, literary beltings," while the librarian "percolates efficiency" in his tours through a library, where, to change the figures, he watches the "book chambermaids going around remembering rules;" or, do we want a library force composed of intelligent, capable, sympathetic, and not too obtrusive assistants? Assistants who know the technique of their work, but to whom it never becomes wholly mechanical, whose intelligence is aided by imagination, and whose skill is gained by study, observation and experience. I have long contended (pardon the digression) that a well developed imagination was a quality much needed for suc-

cessful library work. In reading about the training of telephone operators not long ago I was amused to note that no girl could become a successful operator unless gifted with imagination.

Granted that intelligent workers and not automatons, however skilled, should be developed in our libraries, I think we shall find the staff meeting one of the best aids in this direction. The mere fact that we pause in the midst of our busy routine to consider the course we are taking is in itself a recognition of the fact that the work should be done thoughtfully and not automatically. Then the workers in the library, be they few or many, meet for the purpose of viewing on all sides the subjects for consideration. It is the family meeting of the library for the sake of talking over family matters, and the librarian, as head of the little group, has his, or oftener her, opportunity of giving such information as it is proper all should receive. It is also the time for announcements as to new policies to be pursued, new work to be undertaken, and such general information may then be given as to the detail of work in the different departments that each member of the staff will be somewhat at home everywhere in the library. This sort of knowledge is specially needed in the library with a small staff, where, to pursue the domestic metaphor of the author just quoted, the assistants are much more likely to be general housework girls, on occasion, than "book chambermaids" or literary waitresses.

The librarian is often aided in forming plans, or making decisions, by the suggestions received at these meetings. He gets the benefit of different viewpoints on new undertakings, and hears commendation and unfavorable criticism of the work in hand. It is an opportunity of judging the individual, her quickness of comprehension, resourcefulness, interest in the work, and sympathy — an occasion when things difficult, or impossible, for the librarian to say to the individual may be said to the staff in general. It is also an opportunity to learn of unsuspected lacks and misinterpretations of all kinds, and to see his library and its workings as "iters

* Papers read at the round table on staff meetings held at the meetings of the New York State Library Association, September, 1908.

see it," not only those working in it, but those who patronize it—for comments and criticisms of all sorts come floating in over the loan desk, or are called forth by the catalog or some assistant's quickness, or slowness, which would never be formally made to the librarian. And as we know that harsh criticism of all kinds is oftenest occasioned by lack of understanding, what better way to fortify our libraries against the adverse criticism sure to be made than by having all those who work in them familiar with the aims of those who are shaping their development, and also, so far as prudence permits, with the aids and hindrances in carrying out those ideas?

Staff meetings may be made of help in promoting good understanding between individual members of the staff, loyalty to one another and the institution they serve, that *esprit de corps* which is so marked a characteristic of our profession, and the concerted action which can follow only on concerted knowledge. The staff meeting is a time when the methods of other libraries may be considered for purposes of comparison or adoption, or the latest important news from the library world brought to the attention of all. We have felt the inspiration and practical help obtained at library meetings of various sizes from the modest round table to the crowded sessions of our national association. Why should not a family library meeting be proportionally of benefit—be something more inspirational than the mere laying down of rules and the dry detailing of information?

I asked my staff one day for written suggestions as to the conduct of our meetings—as to topics which might profitably be considered, etc. I thought they would unite in saying they felt the need of knowing more about the books as they came into the library. To my surprise only two expressed that desire, a third saying she thought the time spent in that way had given little pleasure and profit—but then she may not have been a fair judge, as she had done most of the little book discussion we have undertaken. A discussion of books, even though carefully prepared by one person, is something that should not be hurried too much, and the time which can ordinarily be allotted to its staff meetings is probably too brief.

Feeling, however, that all in my library need to know more than we do about the books and periodicals coming into the library (and for that matter about those already there), I am starting a library class, if it may be called such, where we shall talk about things we have not time to consider in staff meetings, especially about the new books, or old ones, if we choose. This class is designed chiefly for those who do not handle the books in process of classifying and cataloging, and who have not yet spoiled their literary appetites by much reading of reviews.

All librarians may have ideals and theories, but we are usually confronted by conditions unfavorable to the carrying out of our pet plans. We have, perhaps, a small number of workers in proportion to the work that must be done, to say nothing of that we would like to undertake. The salaries are small, and the hours sufficiently long to leave very small margin of time and strength for the non-professional occupations and pleasures which every one of us needs in order to keep from getting into a rut. Now, given these conditions, or given more favorable ones, I would like to ask a few questions, and should be glad if a little time for their discussion might be given in the course of this meeting:

How often should staff meetings be held?

Should they be during, or out of, library hours?

Should attendance be obligatory even when it involves an extra journey to the library, and perhaps additional expense in the way of lunches and carfares?

In case reports on new books or any professional matters are required, how much time, if any, out of scheduled hours is a librarian justified in expecting members of his staff to give to such work?

Should he encourage meetings outside of library hours of members of the staff for purposes of study connected with professional matters? Or will the knowledge gained in such ways be more than offset by the loss of elasticity in the mind that is always exercised in one way?

Is it possible that we may take our work as well as ourselves too seriously, and not throw it off when done for the day in favor of some quite different pursuit? I wonder if to the outsider, we seem surrounded by

the "visible, unctuous, tangible, actual, thick silence" that oppresses the sensitive author already quoted, in the library he frequents "Everything that came out of that library," he says, "is followed and tiptoed around by our librarian's assistants' silence. They are followed about by it themselves. The thick little blond one, with the high yellow hair, lives in our ward. One feels a kind of hush rimming her around when one meets her on the street." How many of us, do you suppose, make that sort of impression when we walk abroad?

II.

BY FRANCES L. RATHBONE, *Librarian Free Public Library, East Orange, N. J.*

THE time when the business methods of a library were a profound secret from the staff, and when future aims were the last thing about which a staff should feel at liberty to inquire, and when a suggestion, from an assistant, of a change in method, or a short-cut in work was repulsed, is not so far back in library history but that it is understandable how the staff meeting is slow in coming to the fore as an essential part of a library schedule. The closed shelf library was in part responsible for this, for there was much routine work to be done and little chance for the assistant to make her personality felt. Now, in the successful open shelf library every assistant must be the librarian in embryo. She must express the librarian's spirit, and the library's policy. She cannot do this without being in touch with the librarian, nor can she be more than a routine assistant unless she is given opportunity to think for herself. Assistants *do* think for themselves, but for want of being asked what they think they lose interest and become mere machines. The best part of themselves, as individuals, is suppressed and the library loses the cream of each assistant's value to the institution for want of simply setting her free by asking for help and advice. This crest of the wave, this spontaneous spirit which gives human warmth of interest, as well as routine hours of service, could be had for the asking, without money and without price if librarians would only sincerely believe that the staff could assist in forming the policy of the library and in saving dollars by short-cuts suggested. I know of an assistant in a children's room who was recataloging the collection. She

said to me: "Many of these books had better be discarded. They are of no literary value. Their current demand passed away years ago and they stand on the shelves, yet I am spending months in cataloging them." I asked why she did not suggest this sensible saving of months of her salary, space on shelves, repairings in the future, etc. Her only reply was, "The suggestion would not be welcomed"—and she went on with her work. Enough time would have been saved in this one suggestion alone to justify many staff-meetings. Of course many impractical suggestions will be offered, and these must be received in the friendly spirit in which they are given if we would have others offered in the future. As Mr. Dana says, each one should offer at least ten suggestions to every one that can be applied.

The first requisite of a staff meeting such as we have used, and which I have been asked to describe, is that it occur as an essential part of each week's work. We never make a change without first discussing it with the whole staff. We often wait a week to think over all its disadvantages and discuss it again before inaugurating it. If, on trial, it fails, we drop it. I usually discuss any proposed line of work with the staff previous to bringing it before the directors. When it is clearly threshed out with the staff I know the line that I wish to suggest and then tell the directors about it. Of course this only applies to matters of library development, such as a plan for allowing more books to a borrower, the vacation plan, reasons for having the library open longer hours, etc.

Staff meetings as a part of the weekly schedule should be planned to meet the needs of the special staff concerned. They should be open to the apprentices as well as to the staff. They should first of all be practical. If they are planned for the staff of a large library, department staff meetings will bring more concrete results than large general meetings. It is better that the librarian meet the heads of the departments and leave them to infuse his spirit into their staff meetings. A small library, of course, has the advantage, for here it is possible to arrange for the whole staff to meet at one time, and the librarian can conduct the meeting in person. But whether the staff be large or small, three or sixty, I believe a staff meeting is a lever

that should not be omitted through pressure of time, or because of any diffidence on the part of the staff or the librarian. Scholarship is not the only requisite for a librarian. Ability to draw out the best in her staff, to develop their latent powers, and to establish a spirit of co-operation in the work are indispensable to successful library work in our time.

Three lines of thought should pervade the staff meetings in order to bring about the largest practical results:

1. There should be the desire on the part of the librarian to share with the staff all of the plans for the library's growth in regard to the spirit, the policy, the attitude towards the community. This part of the staff meeting should provoke a "give and take" discussion of work outlined for the future. For I believe the librarian can gain more from the staff, if she goes to its members in a receptive attitude, than she can give them. And I believe that she cannot afford to do without their advice.

2. There should be a frank discussion of any proposed change of details or rules or methods. If the librarian makes a change without first asking the effect of it in relation to every department, she will find herself doing many unwise things. Or, if she, unadvised, tries to think out all of the difficulties, she will have consumed much more time than if she had let those most closely in touch with details present the weak points, and she will have lost to the staff this opportunity for growth. Let us remember that a librarian must be a successful teacher if she would be a successful librarian. A janitor once said to me, "Mr. — is one man in a thousand." When asked why, he replied, "Well, I have worked under many other people before I came here, and usually I was told just what was to be done in every emergency, but Mr. — always says 'Clark, these are the conditions, what had we better do about them?' He probably knows much better than I what should be done, yet he asks me." I then said to him, "Doesn't it make you think much more carefully about everything you do because you know that your opinion will be asked?" "Yes, of course it does. But not one man in a hundred has sense enough to know that and do it."

3. There should be some sort of study course carried on. This part of the meeting

should be in charge of each member of the staff in turn. By this plan no one has to devote a large amount of time to preparation, yet all get the results. If the library gives the time, the study should be so planned as to make the result tangible and effective for the library as well as for the staff. The reading of a history of literature or of any special book could as well be done alone. But the staff meeting study course should be in itself an index to a wider field of knowledge than the mere contents of any one book or than the actual work covered. We have found the following topics, outlines of which are presented here, useful, interesting and far-reaching in results.

"A study of the history of publishing houses," planned by Miss Hazeltine for her staff in Jamestown:

History: Date of founding; Founders; Place and definite location; Leading members of the firm from founding to date; Important events, failures, etc.

Publications: Character, reliability, important authors in their list, important series, ideals of the firm.

Trade-mark or ex-libris.

Magazines published by firm; date of founding and history, editors, general characteristics, articles, authors, illustrations, illustrators, advertisements.

This course we used in the Newark Library. For this winter's work each member of the staff chose a publishing house and reported at her staff meeting on whatever points she had covered at the time. The results were: an interest in the publisher of every book; an interest in the new publications of the publisher chosen; a grasp of the type of his publications and a knowledge of his comparative value. This knowledge would influence the assistant's judgment of every book. We touched also upon the general make-up and style of a publisher's books, the relations between publishers and authors, copyright, etc. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. even lent us by registered mail their only copy of an early illustrated catalog.

The next winter, in Newark, we took up the "Evaluation of books by subject," using the following outline, suggested by a plan made by Mrs. Maltby when head of the Children's room in Buffalo.

"Evaluation of books by subject"

(a) Choose a class of books.

(b) In the given class each member of the staff will:

1. Select best five books on the subject. If there are not five authoritative books upon the subject select only those of merit.
2. Select these books with the aid of bibliographies found in books upon the subject; of the New International Encyclopædia; of bibliographies in the subject catalog; of Sonnenschein's starred books; of catalogs of other libraries; lists in the Vertical File; and publisher's trade lists.
3. Review and discuss these five books with the staff at the staff meetings.
4. Discuss each of these five books as to title-page, date, form of contents and indexes, make-up of the book, arrangement, source, authority, reputation of its author and comparative value.
5. While selecting these five books make order slips for other books upon the subject which the library does not own, and which your search leads you to think would be valuable.
6. Examine all other books in the class with sufficient thoroughness to decide how you would bring each out in cataloging; whether you would make analyticals, and what ones you would make. Note title-page, date, preface, contents, index and make-up of each book.
7. After this, make a point of examining all new books added to the library on your subject.
8. See if the library is supplying the demand in your subject, and give notes and suggestions as to purchase to Miss Rathbone once a month.

Give salient points and give authority in every case.

The notes will then be of value in book-purchase.

The result of the above course was that all of the staff had established standards of judging a book, knew the difference between a source book and a popular secondary book, had learned how to use bibliographies efficiently, and had learned to scan title-page and contents intelligently. Each had also one subject on which it was well for any member of the staff to refer to her for advice. We used this outline the first two winters that I was in East Orange. The third winter the staff were all preparing

for the New York Library examinations, as we had placed ourselves under these for all promotions or increases in salary, and I gave them of my Pratt Library School notes on subjects which they wished to understand more fully. We took up alphabetizing and all filed our catalog cards. This filing I revised, showing each one any points not clear. This work markedly increased the intelligent use of the catalog. It is of distinct practical value. Next we had the history of classification. We discussed the theory and good and weak points of Dewey and Cutter. The Cutter numbering tables were explained, and each member of the staff was assigned a group of books to classify, subject to revision. This practical work was done in their cataloging time, not during the staff meeting. The study of subject headings followed this. About this time Miss Esther Crawford sent us a list of questions that she wanted answered from actual experience in a small library, such as "For which do people ask, 'Zoology' or 'Animals'?", etc. These questions brought out the various phases of subject headings in a clarifying way. Now, every member of the staff classifies her own books, subject to revision, before she catalogs them. This winter we hope to take up the cataloging of Public documents. With a set of sample cards for form, and with careful revision always, I believe we shall make every member of the staff an independent cataloger, and they all enjoy it. The tentative list of the *A. L. A. Booklist* we always read over in staff meeting. Also we read and discuss the New York State Library's yearly list of books. These talks give the whole staff the benefit of the definite information on any book which any member of the staff may possess*.

This coming winter we are planning to use Savage's "Descriptive annotation in library catalogs," the University of Chicago "Style book," and the Pittsburgh Library *Bulletin* as the bases of our work. We expect to have a special topic case headed: "Books which few people can afford to omit," and shall each make annotations for some of these books. These annotations we shall criticise along the lines laid down by Savage and then rewrite them. By this means we hope to develop our

* This plan was carried out, and every member of the staff thinks it the most practically helpful course we have had.

powers of critical judgment, clearness or conciseness of expression. We hope this course of study will make our opinions on any book more valuable to the public, and that it will also increase the power of expression of members of the staff who contribute articles to the local papers.

These staff meetings we hold from 8.30 to 9.30 o'clock on Friday mornings. The library opens at nine o'clock, but there are few interruptions during the first half-hour. During the time of vacations we have no meetings except on emergency call. We are so in the habit of asking and making suggestions that scarcely a week passes without some variation in method. We also always try to see that every member of the staff knows the source whence the accepted suggestion comes.

LIBRARIES TO HELP BUSINESS MEN.

A CIRCULAR has been recently issued by the Merchants' Association of New York City and the Free Public Library of Newark which is intended for distribution among such libraries as maintain special technical departments or have made special efforts to meet the needs of business men or technical workers. The following libraries have been selected and to these the annexed questions have been sent: New York Public Library; Philadelphia Commercial Museum; Public Service Commission 1st District New York; Stone & Webster, Boston; Wisconsin Legislative Bureau, Madison; Baltimore Legislative Reference Bureau; Boston Merchants' Association; Brooklyn League; Brooklyn Public Library; Bureau of Municipal Research, New York; Chicago Association of Commerce; City Club of New York City; New York State Chamber of Commerce; Engineers' Club Library, New York; Equitable Life Assurance Co., New York; Fisk & Robinson, New York; John Crerar Library, Chicago; Merchants' Association of New York; Newark Public Library, Branch 1; Newark Statistical Library.

NAME OF LIBRARY
ADDRESS

NAME OF LIBRARIAN

- 1 When established?
- 2 For what purpose and used by what classes of peoples?
- 3 Volumes? Pamphlets?
- 4 Are both lent?
- 5 What kind of reference work is done?
- 6 Do you publish lists on special subjects? or monthly bulletins?
- 7 Number of periodicals taken?
- 8 Do you approve of the suggestion that some form of co-operation be undertaken between libraries of this kind, and have you any suggestions in this line?

The libraries are asked to answer these questions, make suggestions for further inquiries and add names of other libraries in this field.

SUGGESTED CLASSIFICATION FOR CHEMISTRY*

Most classifications are—and must be—content to remain compromises between scientific exactness and practical convenience. All attempts to modify existing symptoms of classification already in use are directed toward the end of increasing their usefulness together with their bibliographic exactness. A bibliographic classification is one based upon the total literature of the subject in question. It is empiric. It differs from common systems in that it recognizes all of the properties or characteristics of the subjects classified, and not merely the form divisions and the larger groups of subjects.

The efficiency of any bibliographical classification is the ratio of the articles or books to the number of entries required to classify them. If a piece of literature on a given subject requires one, two, and three entries to classify it in as many different systems of classification, the efficiencies of the classifications are respectively $1/1$, $1/2$, and $1/3$, or 100, 50 and 33.3 per cent.

The value of a relative classification is universally recognized. Most publications treat of more than one definite subject, and, in consequence, general headings are necessary. But when the classifier goes beyond these general headings into the field of heterogeneous minor subjects there is added, beyond the relative feature, the desirable one of bibliographic efficiency.

This paper concerns itself with a search for a system of classification for *inorganic chemistry* that should provide the most efficient grouping of the chemical elements and the best general headings, or combinations, of these groups.

To find these, various systems of classification were tested with the serial literature (papers on finely detailed topics), and from the data thus secured concerning the co-treatment of the different elements a more strictly bibliographic schedule of classification was prepared.

The research divided itself in two parts. First, seven important systems were tested upon a definite number of publications on inorganic chemistry from the earlier and recent literature in this field. Obviously, the most efficient system would be the one that required the least number of entries to classify completely the given number of publications.

The classifications studied were: (1) The Mendelejeff-Meyer-Rudolf, (2) the Metalloid-metal, (3) the Werner, (4) the Ramsay, (5) the Royal Society, (6) the Decimal classification (Dewey).

The material on which this investigation

* Abstract by J. Christian Bay, classifier of John Crerar Library, of a paper by Adolphe Vöge, of the Concilium Bibliographicum, Zürich, on "Grouping of the chemic elements: a contribution to the scientifically bibliographic classification of chemistry."

was based was the contents of the *Chemisches Centralblatt*, a periodical of varied contents in chemistry, covering the period 1877-1908. Only those articles that covered inorganic and analytic chemistry were admitted to the test. In each case it was first ascertained what chemical elements were studied, either by themselves or in connection with other elements, or with systems of elements. Thus, mercury was found to have been studied 26 times with copper and 30 times with silver, while with zinc and cadmium it had been studied but 17 and 19 times, respectively. Hence, mercury would be grouped with copper and silver rather than with zinc and cadmium.

The result of testing these data upon the systems of classification above mentioned was that while any one system would be strong in the grouping of certain elements, they all were weak in grouping together others frequently studied together in actual laboratory work. Tables giving exact details in this respect for the various systems were prepared.

The total of articles accepted for the investigation from the file of the *Chemisches Centralblatt* was 488. The following table explains the bibliographic efficiency of the various schedules of classification for this material:

Classification.	No. of entries required.	Bibliographic efficiency.	Chemico-bibliographic efficiency.*
Royal Society. 1727		28.2%	.0%
Metalloid-metal. 1072		45.2%	52.3%
Periodic 1076		45.2%	52.5%
Ramsay 1071		45.6%	53.0%
Dewey 1053		46.2%	54.4%
Werner 929		46.5%	54.6%
Moissan 944		52.6%	64.5%

Thus, barring the Royal Society, the classifications are remarkably similar in bibliographic efficiency. The Moissan classification is the most efficient, the Royal Society the least efficient.

In regard to the Decimal classification, an attempt was made to determine the definite subdivisions that fail to accommodate properly the material studied. It was noted carefully how many cases occurred in which two or more elements were studied together. The data tabulated, the Decimal classification would correspond with the seeming requirements on the part of the literature with the following changes:

Arsenic should be classed with nitrogen and phosphorus instead of with antimony and tin.

Radium to go with alkaline earths instead of with the rare earths.

Tin would be placed with titanium and zirconium rather than with lead, arsenic and antimony.

Antimony and bismuth should be classified with vanadium instead of with lead and tin.

Gold would group with platinum instead of with copper, silver and mercury.

Thorium and zirconium should be classed with tin instead of with the rare earths.

Vanadium would group with antimony instead of with the chromium group.

The second part of the inquiry was the preparation of a perfected empiric classification. The best sequence of the groups naturally is that which places the groups most commonly studied together, next to each other. The method of determining the exact empiric location of the groups will be evident from the following example:

Consider the sequence of the iron, chromium and magnesium groups.

(a)	Studied together in cases.
Iron and chromium.....	144
Chromium and magnesium.....	27
	171
(b)	
Chromium and magnesium.....	27
Magnesium and iron.....	209
	236
(c)	
Chromium and iron.....	144
Iron and magnesium.....	209
	353

These numbers, interpreted, mean that—

If arrangement (a) is chosen, 144 articles studying members of the iron and chromium groups together, plus 27 including members of the chromium and magnesium groups studied together, will each probably require but one entry, i.e., 171 entries together. By arranging the groups in the order (b) the probability is that 236 articles dealing with the same three groups will each require but one entry, or 236 in all.

With the arrangement (c) 353 articles dealing with these groups will probably require but one entry each.

Naturally, the greater number of one-entry references that a system provides, the less bulky or expensive will be the effort it requires. Therefore, arrangement (c) is to be preferred.

The sequence of the 15 groups giving the greatest summation of co-treatment numbers is somewhat difficult of attainment. But after several attempts, always remembering that the final test lies with the greatest bibliographic efficiency, the following schedule was adopted:

PERFECTED EMPIRIC CLASSIFICATION

- .111 H, Halogen & He groups
(any 3 of these 10: class here)
- .112-9 Hydrogen
- .121 Helium group
(any 2 of these 5: class here)
(H + He group: class here)
- .122-9 Helium
- .123 Neon
- .124 Argon
- .125 Krypton
- .126 Xenon
- .131 Halogen, C & O group
(any 4 of these 11: class here)

* i.e.: number of elements—number of cards.
number of elements—number of articles.

.141	Halogen group (any 2 of these 4: class here)	.64	Wolfram (Tungsten)
.142-9	Fluorin	.65	Uranium
.15	Chlorin	.66	Vanadium
.16	Bromin	.67-9	Niobium
.17	Iodin	.674	Tantalum
.211	C, O & As groups (any 4 of these 12: class here)	.711	Rare earth + Al groups (any 3 of these 23: class here)
.215	C + O groups (any 3 of these 7: class here)	.712-9	Zirconium
.221	C group (any 2 of these 4: class here)	.721	Rare earth group (any 2 of these 20: class here) (Zr + rare earths: class here)
.222-9	Boron	.723	Radium
.23	Carbon	.725	Lanthanum
.24	Silicon	.727-1	Ce + Th
.261	O, As & Pb groups (any 4 of these 14: class here)	.727.2-9	Cerium
.265	O + As groups (any 3 of these 10: class here)	.729	Thorium
.271	O group (any 2 of these 4: class here)	.731	Neodymium
.272-9	Oxygen	.733	Praseodymium
.28	Sulfur	.735	Samarium
.292	Selenium	.737	Europium
.294	Tellurium	.739	Gadolinium
.311	As, Pb & Ag groups (any 4 of these 13: class here)	.741	Terbium
.315	As + Pb groups (any 3 of next 9: class here)	.743	Holmium
.321	As group (any 2 of next 5: class here)	.745	Dysprosium
.322-9	Bismuth	.747	Erbium
.331	As + Sb	.749	Ytterbium
.332-9	Arsenic	.751	Actinium?
.34	Antimony	.753	Thulium
.35	Nitrogen	.755	Lutecium
.36	Phosphorus	.761.1	Sc + Y
.411	Pb, Ag & Mg groups (any 4 of these 12: class here)	.761.2-9	Scandium
.415	Pb + Ag groups (any 3 of these 8: class here)	.763	Yttrium
.421	Pb group (any 2 of these 4: class here)	.771	Al + Na groups
.422-9	Tin	.781	Al group (any 2 of these 3: class here)
.43	Lead	.782-9	Aluminium
.442	Thallium	.792	Gallium
.444	Germanium	.794	Indium
.451	Ag, Mg & Fe groups (any 4 of these 12: class here)	.815	Na + Ca groups (any 3 of these 8: class here)
.455	Ag + Mg groups (any 3 of these 8: class here)	.821	Na group (any 2 of these 5: class here)
.461	Ag group (any 2 of these 4: class here)	.822-9	Lithium
.462-9	Copper	.831	Na + K
.47	Silver	.832-9	Sodium
.48	Mercury	.84	Potassium
.492	Gold	.852	Rubidium
.511	Mg, Fe & Cr groups (any 4 of these 13: class here)	.854	Cesium
.515	Mg + Fe groups (any 3 of these 8: class here)	.861	Ca group (any 2 of these 3: class here)
.516.2-9	Beryllium	.862-9	Calcium
.521	Mg group (any 2 of these 4: class here) (Be with Mg group: class here)	.87	Strontium
.522-9	Magnesium	.88	Barium
.53	Zinc	.911	Pt + Pd groups (any 2 of these 6: class here)
.542-9	Cadmium	.921	Pt group (any 2 of these 3: class here)
.551	Fe + Cr groups (any 3 of these 9: class here)	.922-9	Platinum
.552-9	Manganese	.93	Iridium
.561	Fe group (any 2 of these 4: class here) (Mn + Fe group: class here)	.942	Osmium
.562-9	Iron	.951	Pd group
.571	Co + Ni	.952-9	Palladium
.572-9	Cobalt	.96	Rhodium
.58	Nickel	.972	Ruthenium
.611	Ti, Cr + rare earth groups (any 4 of these 28: class here)	.98	Uncertain elements (arranged alphabetically)
.612-9	Titanium	.99	(Unassignment necessary for organic af- fixes)
.621	Cr group (any 2 of these 8: class here) (Ti + Cr group: class here)		
.622-9	Chromium		
.63	Molybdenum		

With this arrangement, a bibliographic efficiency of 62.5% and chemico-bibliographic efficiency of 81.8% are attained.

Fifty per cent of the publications under observation deal with compounds of at least two elements, 20% with elements equally well classified under almost every system; 20% with elements where the efficiency of classification is largely dependent upon the system adopted. Therefore, the proposed empiric classification would probably affect beneficially at least 20% of the literature of inorganic chemistry.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY LAWS.

THE library laws of California which are in force at the present time are given in the April issue of *News Notes of California Libraries* and merit careful attention from librarians. A brief summary of recent library legislation in California was presented in the April number of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, in which the "county library act" is described. This is the most progressive measure dealing with county library methods at present in force. The text of the act, together with the amended "Public libraries act" or the "Municipality library act" which was enacted previous to its amendment in March, 1901, and such laws of the penal code as relate to libraries and the general law on the founding and maintaining of public libraries, museums and galleries of art are included in the April number of *California Libraries*. The text of a new act known as the Hans act or "unincorporated town library act" is given also in this number. By this act provision is made for the establishment of a public library in any unincorporated town or village of California. Upon the application for formation of a library district by petition of 50 or more taxpayers or residents to the board of supervisors in the county in which the town is located, an election must be held to determine whether such library establishment shall be made. These elections are to be conducted according to the general election laws of the state. The library district, if established, may at any time be dissolved upon the vote of two-thirds of the qualified electors thereof.

A board of three library trustees shall be appointed to conduct the affairs of the library district. It will be obligatory upon this board to call an election upon petition of 50 or more taxpayers and submit to the electors of the district whether the bonds of the district shall be issued and sold for the library demands as set forth in this act.

If it is decided that these bonds are to be issued they must not bear a greater amount of interest than 6 per cent., the interest to be payable annually or semi-annually, and the bonds must be sold in the manner prescribed by the board of supervisors, all proceeds therefrom to be deposited in the county treasury, to be drawn out for library purposes.

This act, known also as the "Hans act," was vetoed when first presented for passage, but was afterward passed.

With the "municipality library act," the "county library act" and this "unincorporated town library act" it will be seen that California is equipped with effective legislation for the development of library progress.

NEW RUSSIAN POSTAL REGULATIONS

THE following incident concerning the international postal service may be of interest to librarians. Last summer the Russian postal authorities, for reasons best known to themselves, gave a new interpretation to section 2b, paragraph 3, article 16, of the international postal convention, and announced that beginning Feb. 19, 1909, bound books sent to Russia by the international mails, whether registered or not, would be returned to the senders. The only approach to an explanation being given was that the Russian government had levied a duty of 1½ rubles (78 cents) on every 40 pounds of book bindings entering the country, and by an international postal regulation the admission of dutiable articles to international mails is prohibited. (For full details see the *Börsenblatt für den Deutschen Buchhandel*, nos. 136, 185, 190, 196, 216, 220, 234, 281, 293, 295, 296 of last year, and no. 7 of the current volume.) Bound books could therefore only be sent to Russia by parcels post or by freight, and as the United States does not have a parcels post service to Russia it was practically impossible to send small consignments of bound books to Russia from this country. A friend of the writer wishing to send to a correspondent in Russia a copy of one of Palmer Cox's Brownie books, sent it by mail, and the book was promptly returned to him by the New York City postoffice as unmailable. His only alternative was to take the book out of its covers and send it in this dismembered state, taking his chances later on getting the cloth cover to Russia, when it might be again united with the body of the book.

Although English, German and Russian booksellers and bookbuyers were most seriously affected by this ruling, yet there resulted much inconvenience and some financial loss to Americans. Complaints were raised on all sides and the regulation was strongly criticised by the Russian press.

Finally, however, the Russian postal authorities, who have always been characterized by a hesitancy to enter into various international agreements and by an insistence on retaining antiquated practices and methods entailing great inconvenience and financial loss to both Russian and foreign business interests, have been induced to repeal the offensive ruling. The Post Office Department at Washington has accordingly notified the public that "bound books will now be accepted for mailing to Russia at postage rates and subject to the conditions applicable to prints in international mails."

THEODORE W. KOCH.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES.

(From the *Athenaeum*)

A ROYAL CHARTER constituted in 1907 the National Library of Wales, but its actual existence dates from the 1st of January of this year, on which day Sir John Williams transferred his valuable collections, numbering about 20,000 items, to form the basis of the National Library.

For nearly forty years Sir John had been engaged in bringing together his library of Welsh books and books relating to Wales and to the Celtic languages. It contains nearly all the rarest Welsh books (of several, the only known copies), and about 500 manuscripts.

Many of the rarest books and manuscripts came with a collection made between 1690 and 1740 by the Rev. Samuel Williams and his son, the Rev. Moses Williams, F.R.S. On the death of the latter the books passed to William Jones, F.R.S. (father of Sir William Jones, the Oriental scholar), who bequeathed his library to the Earl of Macclesfield in 1749. For 150 years the books remained undisturbed in the possession of the Earls of Macclesfield at Shirburn Castle; but in 1899 they were sold by the Earl of Macclesfield to Sir John Williams.

Many of the mss. in the Shirburn collection have been described in the Report on Welsh mss., vol. II., pt. II., prepared for the Historical Mss. Commission by Dr. Gwenogfryn Evans.

All the printed books in the Shirburn collection are in excellent condition—an important point, as Welsh books are nearly always badly preserved and frequently imperfect. They include the two earliest known Welsh books: "Yny Lhyvyr hwnn," a Welsh primer by Sir John Price, printed in 1546 and an undated collection of Welsh proverbs by William Salesbury, printed about the same time. Of these two books no other copies are known. There is also the only known perfect copy of "Kynniver llith a ban," 1551, containing the Epistles and Gospels appointed to be read as part of the Communion service. Copies of this work were supplied to the churches in Wales, and from them these portions of Scripture were read to the people for the first time in their native tongue. The whole of the New Testament was not translated into Welsh until some years later (1567), and the whole Bible still later (1588).

Of twenty-two Welsh books before 1600, Sir John Williams' library has 18, while it is virtually complete for editions of the Welsh Bible and the Welsh Book of Common Prayer down to 1800. Of the Prayer Book there is one of three known copies of the first edition (1567), besides good copies of four other issues before the Commonwealth, all extremely rare. The rarity of Welsh Prayer Books and the comparative abundance of Bibles issued before 1640 are attributed to the de-

struction of the former during the Commonwealth.

There is a good collection of books and some mss. bearing on the Arthurian romances, the earliest printed book being "Lancelot du Lac" (1488). Welsh books and Welsh writers of the 17th century are well represented, as are works dealing with specific periods, such as the Civil War so far as it affected Wales, and the religious revival of the 18th century. First editions of the works of Vaughan the Silurist and his brother Thomas Vaughan; rare tracts by John Penry; scarce locally printed pieces by Welsh hymn-writers, and other rare books from local presses; books with Borrow's autograph, and volumes from his library, including the copy of Dafydd ap Gwilym's poems with Borrow's notes, are some of the features of this notable library.

The students of Celtic languages will also find books relating to the literature and philology of Gaelic, Irish, Cornish, and Breton.

Other valuable collections of Welsh literature will shortly be transferred to the National Library at Aberystwyth. The Council have been fortunate in securing for temporary use a suitable building, absolutely isolated from other buildings. This has been fitted with steel bookshelves to hold 80,000 volumes, and capable of extension; and a fireproof strong room for the safe storage of mss. and rare books has been provided. Six firms of architects are preparing plans and designs, in a limited competition for the permanent building, which will be erected upon a site of four acres given by Lord Rendel. This site is a plateau on a hill overlooking the town, with magnificent views.

American Library Association

PUBLISHING BOARD

The Executive Board of the American Library Association having practically decided to discontinue Headquarters at Boston, upon the expiration of the present lease at 34 Newbury street, and the Publishing Board having likewise taken action that will result in a transference of editorial headquarters elsewhere, Miss Nina E. Browne has tendered her resignation as secretary of the latter body, to take effect Sept. 1. Miss Browne has made her home in Boston many years, and prefers to remain there to engage in other library work, rather than to follow the Headquarters to the West, where it seems likely that they are to be located. The Board has recorded its appreciation of Miss Browne's services in the following resolution unanimously adopted at a recent meeting:

Resolved, That the Publishing Board place on record their appreciation of the faithful and the unsparring services of Miss Browne, and their recognition of her unselfish devotion to library interests. For these they tender her their sincere thanks.

State Library Commissions

TEXAS LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Appropriations have been granted the Texas Library and Historical Commission for two years beginning Sept. 1, 1909, to the amount of \$8478 for the year '09-'10, and \$5378 for the year 1910-'11. The amount of difference between the two appropriations to be expended upon furnishings and any contingent expenses which naturally would be required within the first year. An emergency appropriation of \$2721.75 has also been granted to cover the last five months of the present fiscal year, this emergency sum enabling the Commission to begin work immediately instead of waiting until September for the available funds.

VERMONT FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION

In the May *A. L. A. Bulletin* note is made of the re-enaction on Dec. 3, 1908, of the law providing for the State Board of Library Commissioners of Vermont which involved some significant changes.

The most important change was the provision in section 4, permitting the board to aid public libraries with grants of money to the amount of \$1000 each year, in sums not exceeding \$100 to each library. Grants averaging about \$25 will probably be made by the board.

Section 2 distinctly authorizes an annual school for library instruction and suggests by a permissive clause the payment of the expense of the local librarian in attendance at this school. Appropriations were increased to \$2000 annually for salaries and general expenses; \$600 annually for the purchase of books for travelling libraries; and \$150 annually for clerical work in preparing such books for circulation; these sums in addition to the \$1000 used in grants to libraries. The law is comprehensive, containing 32 sections dealing with the appointment of the commissioners, their duties, the details governing incorporation of local public libraries, the administration of travelling libraries and the distribution of state documents.

In greater detail, sections 1, 7, 12, 13 and 15-30 are identical with the corresponding sections of the old law. Sections 3, 8, 9 and 10 show slight changes made to secure to cities and incorporated villages the same privileges which towns have previously enjoyed. The substantial changes are embodied in sections 2, 4, 5, 6, 11 and 14. These changes all reflect an increased appreciation of the work which the Board of Library Commissioners has been doing since its organization, as they enlarge its powers and are evidently meant to increase its efficiency and usefulness."

State Library Associations

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The spring meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held at the Williamantic State Normal Training School, on May 26, 1909.

Mr. Burr, the principal of the school, welcomed the Association. The secretary's report was read and accepted.

Mr. Anderson suggested that the association express in some manner their appreciation of the late Dr. James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University. Mr. Keogh sketched Dr. Canfield's professional career and spoke of him as one of the most intellectual and inspiring members of the library world. It was voted that we record in our minutes the association's sincere appreciation of his valuable services to the profession at large and our grateful recollection of his presence with us at our last meeting and that the secretary convey to Mrs. Canfield the sentiment of this meeting.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Letters were read from Mr. Wyer and Mr. Faxon regarding the A. L. A. Conference at Bretton Woods. Miss Hewins and Mr. Stetson emphasized the great importance of these meetings and urged that more directors should attend whenever possible.

Mrs. Johnson reported on the Library Institute to be held at Danbury, July 13-24.

Miss Evelyn H. Curtis, of the Danielson Public Library, spoke most interestingly on "The use made of a village library." She traced briefly the growth of her library. They now have 1400 borrowers, a circulation of over 25,000, and distribute books in a territory of 57 square miles. Work is being done with the schools, reading circles, mission study clubs and Sunday-schools. Old magazines and newspapers are sent to the outlying farms and then passed on.

Miss Edwina Whitney, of the Connecticut Agricultural College, read a paper on "The library and the farmer." A great amount of all kinds of agricultural literature has been published since the establishment of so many agricultural schools and colleges. Much of it is of doubtful value and soon superseded. The farmer is "out for facts" and cares not for the literary value of the books. Beside books on their own work, farmers and farmers' wives need the great literature of the world. Farmers do not always appreciate what is done for them, they speak skeptically of scientific farming—but send their sons to the agricultural college. Miss Whitney gave an excellent evaluation of agricultural and rural science books. Mr. Stetson expressed a wish that the Association take steps to have this paper published, possibly by Storrs, as one of its bulletins.

Mrs. Johnson stated that there are 300 grange libraries in circulation by the state, these may be borrowed by the public libraries when not in use. Lists are sent with these books with suggestions for grange programs.

Miss Emerson read extracts from Miss Frances Hobart's paper on "Money making for the smallest libraries," published in *New York Libraries* for April.

A luncheon was served for the association by the ladies of the Methodist church.

The entire senior class of the Normal School attended the afternoon session, which was opened by a paper by Mr. Edward B. Sellev, supervising principal New Haven Public Schools, who spoke on "Certain relations between the public library and the schools." Some of Mr. Sellev's dominant notes were—The classics should not be written down. Books should always be a little beyond the child. Nothing less than the best should be offered. More inspirational literature should be read. From open shelves children will not choose the classics without guidance, and in large communities the children should be reached by the teacher. Know the teachers and as many children as possible. Rather force yourself upon the teacher. The library should be the mentor of selection. The librarian from her wider knowledge of books and the resources of her library, may do more to help the teacher in her efforts to correlate studies.

Mr. Henry T. Burr then spoke on "The relation of the public library to the schools in country towns." He pictured the average small country school with its well intentioned but untrained teacher, its supply of reading-books, which are read and reread, its great scarcity of all other books, and spoke of the duty of the librarian in this connection. A course was outlined for the librarian to follow—how to attract the teacher, gain her interest and then her co-operation. Better let a child read too much than kill his taste for reading by imposing too classical books. Country libraries should have a few pedagogical books and books of practical methods for the teacher herself and then shove them at her.

Prof. Oscar Kuhns, of Wesleyan University, read a most scholarly paper on "The art of reading, its methods, pleasures, and ultimate ideal," the final chapter in his forthcoming book, "Books, reading and life." The meeting then adjourned.

FLORENCE RUSSELL, *Secretary*.

IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Library Club in Iowa City has just finished the study program for the year. Book illustration was the special subject chosen for the winter's work and a careful study was made of the different processes. Meetings were held monthly and one evening each was devoted to wood engraving, to cop-

per and steel engraving and mezzotint, to etching, to lithography, half-tone and photo-mechanical processes and to modern illustrators. The Club was fortunate enough to have for the final paper a resumé of the whole subject by Mr. John Springer, of Iowa City, who gave special consideration to illustration from the standpoint of a practical and artistic printer. The study has been a very profitable one and has left each member with a more intelligent understanding and appreciation of book illustration.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Association will be held at The Sagamore, Lake George, Sept. 20-27. Announcement of the meeting was made in the April number of *L. J.*, p. 176-177, with a preliminary announcement of the program. Further and full announcement of the meeting will be made in a coming number. As an extension of special hotel rates are offered from Sept. 10-30 to all members of the N. Y. L. A., the secretary would be glad of the names of those who may be interested in taking advantage of this offer for a part of their vacation time.

RHODE ISLAND LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Rhode Island Library Association held a meeting at the Rogers Williams Park Museum, Providence, June 1. Sessions were held in the morning and afternoon, both of which were largely attended by librarians from different points of the state and a few from Massachusetts.

The following officers were elected: president, Richard Bliss, Redwood Library, Newport; first vice-president, Joseph Harrison, Providence Athenæum; second vice-president, Mrs. E. L. Richardson, Olneyville Free Public Library; secretary, Miss Eleanor Stark, Providence Public Library; treasurer, Herbert O. Brigham, State Library; executive committee: H. L. Koopman, Brown University Library; Ethan Wilcox, Westerly Free Public Library; J. R. Borden, Portsmouth Public Library.

"The Librarian and his work" was the theme for the addresses at the morning session, and it was treated in three separate papers. Librarian H. L. Koopman, of Brown University, speaking on "The making of a librarian," Librarian Richard Bliss, of the Redwood Library, Newport, speaking on "Reading for efficiency," and Mrs. Minerva A. Sanders, of the Deborah Cook Sayles Public Library, Pawtucket, speaking on "Meeting the public."

The meeting was called to order by Librarian Koopman in the absence of President Wilcox.

F. W. Faxon, of the Travel committee of the American Library Association, told of the arrangements that had been made for the annual meeting of that organization, which

is to be held at Bretton Woods, N. H., June 28 to July 15, and of the attractive post-conference trips that are being planned.

The morning session ended with Mr. Faxon's remarks, after which a photograph of the group was taken and luncheon served in the Park Casino.

The afternoon session was devoted to a consideration of the subject, "Nature study and the library." Mrs. Mary E. S. Root, of the Providence Public Library, treated the subject in a paper on "The value of nature study from the library standpoint." She pointed out in numerous ways the assistance that was given librarians in their work by having a good knowledge of nature in its various forms. Principal John S. French, of the Morris Heights School, spoke on "The scope of nature study," and in his remarks he told of the good that could be accomplished by the proper teaching of the subject to school children.

Mrs. Herbert E. Walter read a paper on "The public library and the nature study movement." The paper detailed the progress that had been made during the past few years in nature study in schools, colleges and libraries, until at present it was recognized as an almost necessary branch of education.

Harold L. Madison, curator of the Roger Williams Park Museum, gave a demonstration of a travelling nature study exhibit, after which followed a discussion on the several points that had been brought out in the various papers presented. Officers were elected and reports for the past year presented.

Resolution of condolence to Ethan Wilcox, past president of the Association, and to the family of Chester W. Jenckes, for deaths that had occurred during the year, were adopted and ordered spread on the records.

Votes of thanks were extended to the Park Commissioners for the use of the museum and to Curator H. L. Madison and the Audubon Society for co-operation in making the meeting a success.

Library Schools and Training Classes

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF ATLANTA TRAINING SCHOOL

NOTES OF GRADUATES

Miss T. D. Barker, '09, has been appointed substitute in the Carnegie Library of Atlanta. Miss Pauline Benson, '08, has been appointed organizer of the High School Library, Langley, S. C.

Miss Mary Louisa Browne, '09, has been appointed assistant in the Chatham Square Branch of the New York Public Library, and will begin her duties in August.

Miss Lila May Chapman, '06, has been ap-

pointed librarian of the Public Library of Birmingham, Ala.

Miss Carrie L. Dailey, '06, has been appointed assistant state librarian, to succeed Miss Marian Toombs Colley, resigned.

Miss Mary E. Martin, '06, has been engaged to catalog the library of Hollins Institute, Hollins, Va.

Miss Susan Simonton, '06, has been engaged to organize the Public Library of Avondale, Ala.

Miss Ella M. Thornton, '09, has been appointed assistant in the State Library, Atlanta, Ga., to succeed Miss Carrie Dailey, who was made assistant state librarian.

JULIA T. RANKIN, *Director.*

DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Mr. W. H. Brett, librarian of the Cleveland Public Library, lectured to the class on May 28. His subject, which was illustrated with lantern slides, was on the branch systems of the Cleveland library.

GRADUATE NOTES

Miss Florence M. Wood, class of '08, has resigned from the University of Pennsylvania library staff to become assistant in the Krauth Memorial Theological Library, Mt. Airy, Pa.

Miss Helen Hill, class of '08, has been appointed librarian of the new William Penn High School for girls, Philadelphia.

The graduates living in or near Philadelphia held a reunion during commencement week at the Institute. This reunion took the form of an experience meeting. Among those who gave an account of the year's work were Miss Turner, librarian of the Bethlehem (Pa.) Free Library; Miss Lehman, librarian of the Conshohocken Public Library; Miss Purvis, of the Mercantile Library; Miss Kaighn, organizer of the Mt. Airy Theological Library. Their varied experiences proved interesting and instructive. Miss Widdemere recited the class poem, "The library alphabet" (printed elsewhere in these columns). A reception in the Great Court of the Institute followed.

The class of 1909 gave a luncheon to the faculty on June 8.

POSITIONS — CLASS OF 1909

Miss Helen R. Woodruff, acting librarian, Public Library, Niles, Mich.

Miss Mary M. W. Hershberger, temporary cataloger, Carnegie Library, McKeesport, Pa.

Miss Emily S. Glezen, substitute, Carnegie Library, Pittsburg.

Miss Josephine O'Flynn, assistant, Public Library, Detroit, Mich.

Miss Margaret M. Widdemere and Miss Mary F. Wilson, assistants, Free Library of Philadelphia.

Miss Margaret C. Meagher and Miss Jean

I. Galbreath, assistants, University of Pennsylvania Library.

Mrs. Mary S. Puech, assistant, Public Library, New York City.

Mrs. Cassandra U. Warner, will travel abroad for a year.

IOWA SUMMER LIBRARY SCHOOL

The Iowa Library Commission announces the ninth annual session of the Summer School for Library Training to be held at Iowa City, as a department of the summer session of the State University, June 21 to July 31, 1909.

Applicants now holding library position, or under definite appointment to such position, are eligible for admission, and must file written application in advance, blank for which may be obtained from the director.

Students will be admitted from other states if they meet the admission requirements, and if the limit of students is not reached by Iowa applicants.

Daily instruction is given in the fundamental subjects relating to library organization and methods.

In all cases where the subject admits, instruction will be accompanied by practice work which will be carefully revised and criticised.

A commodious house has been secured for the accommodation of the students and instructors, following the plan of previous years. It is believed that this arrangement adds to the pleasure and comfort of the students.

Address all communications regarding the instruction to the director, Miss Alice S. Tyler, secretary Iowa Library Commission, Des Moines.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Mr. Hiller C. Wellman lectured before the school on "Processes of book-illustration," June 7-8. The lectures were copiously illustrated with examples of all kinds of book illustrations from early woodcuts and copperplates to the latest processes of photogravure and color printing.

Miss Edna Lyman gave four lectures on Children's work, which were very largely attended by students of the regular school as well as by the summer school students, for whom they were primarily given. Dealing largely, as they did, with the psychological basis of children's work, the lectures were an admirable supplement to the special lecture course in children's work given during the winter by Miss Hunt, Miss Olcott and Miss Eaton.

The 12th session of the Summer school opened June 9, with Miss Bacon in charge. Twenty-eight students were enrolled, 21 of whom came from New York state; and from Connecticut, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, 1 each; with 2 from Washington, D. C.

Those students who wished children's work

only attended lectures given earlier in the year in the regular school course.

In view of the fact that it was necessary to hold the school this year in rather cramped quarters and also because it was felt that more could be done for each student if fewer were taken than during the last two years, the number was limited, and while all New Yorkers applying were accepted, a number of applicants from outside the state were refused with much regret.

PRATT INSTITUTE SCHOOL OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

By a vote of the trustees, the name of the school will hereafter be the Pratt Institute School of Library Science, the other departments of the Institute also taking the name of schools.

The Alumni supper took place the evening of June 16th, in the Institute building, about 75 persons, faculty students and graduates being present. The reunion of the class of 1899, scheduled for this year, was not very successful in point of numbers, owing to illness, distance, and such weighty causes, but the roll of the class showed 13 members still engaged in work in libraries, one as high school teacher after a number of years in library service, three married, one leading a domestic life and not wishing a library position, and one deceased. Of the historical course students of that year, one has married and the other three are in libraries.

The trustees' reception followed the supper, and the commencement exercises took place the next evening. A class of 21 was graduated from the Library School, illness having caused the withdrawal of three of the class during the first and second terms.

The list of graduates is as follows:

Marguerite R. Baldwin, Tioga, Pa.
Barbara J. Brink, Kingston, N. Y.
Ruth E. Brown, Knoxville, Iowa.
Alice C. Campbell, Windsor, Conn.
Sally Clarkson, Ann Arbor, Mich.
Helen May Craig, New York.
Hedwig Friess, Brooklyn.
Ethelwyn Gaston, Newark, N. J.
Lillian Griggs, Streator, Ill.
Myra L. Hamlin, Bangor, Me.
Stella R. Hoyt, Auburn, N. Y.
Alma Huestis, Brooklyn.
Minnie W. Leatherman, Louisville, Ky.
Julius Lucht, Brooklyn.
Marjory MacMurchy, Toronto, Ontario.
Miriam Noyes, Oshkosh, Wis.
Mary E. Prendergast, Utica, N. Y.
Ina Rankin, Chatham, Ontario.
Ethel Simmons, Minneapolis, Minn.
Katharine Delia Steele, Princeton, Ill.
Edna M. Werrey, Brooklyn.

Entrance examinations were given on June 11 to 54 persons, 35 of them being examined at a distance and 19 at the Institute. The examinees represented 15 states and Germany, and the average age was 24.

Two students who left the school during the year on account of illness will return and finish their course the coming year.

MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director*.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY SCHOOL

The lectures of the first two weeks in June were devoted largely to children's work. The major course of 10 lectures was given by Mrs. Grace R. Darling, and treated of children's literature, the value of certain books for library use, and why they do or do not interest children. The following supplementary lectures were given: Mr. Legler, illustrated talk, "The evolution of the child's book"; three lectures by Mrs. Sawyer—Cataloging of children's books (with practice work), Editions, Series; Miss Kennedy, Annotated lists. The course was rounded out by a very practical talk on "Teaching the use of the library to eighth grade pupils," by Miss Mary A. Smith, librarian of the Public Library of Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Professor Mack, of the University of Wisconsin, gave a talk on the "Best technical books for a small library," with practical suggestions as to methods of selection along special lines. Professor Cairns, also of the University, lectured on the "Bibliography of American literature."

SCHOOL NOTES

The following list is supplementary to the library appointments published last month:

- Miss Edwina M. Casey, assistant, State Library, Topeka, Kansas.
- Miss Stella E. Hanson, librarian, Public Library, Two Harbors, Minn.
- Miss Grace E. Lane, assistant cataloger, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn.
- Miss Winifred B. Merrill, assistant, Legislative Reference Library, Madison, Wis.
- Miss Bertha H. Rogers, assistant, Public Library, Cleveland, Ohio.
- Miss Alma L. Wilkins, assistant, Legislative Reference Library, Madison, Wis.

Temporary appointments

- Miss Ruth Knowlton, assistant, Public Library, Racine, Wis.
 - Miss Angie Messer, assistant cataloger, State Historical Library, Madison, Wis.
- Closing day exercises will be held on the evening of Tuesday, June 22, the chief address being given by Mr. C. W. Andrews, of Chicago.
- Miss Caroline S. Gregory (class of '07) has resigned her position as assistant at the Soho branch, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, to accept the position of children's librarian at the Public Library of Superior, Wis.
- Miss Julia S. Osborne (class of '07) is assisting in clerical work on the *A. L. A. Booklist*.

Reviews

FABIETTI, Ettore. *Manuale per le Biblioteche Popolari*. Milano, Consorzio delle Biblioteche Popolari (Riparto Provincia), 1908. 112+76 p. 16°.

This is a plain, practical, common sense book of instruction and advice, an Italian "Hints to small libraries," decidedly curious and not without interest to American libraries. After a discussion of what a "biblioteca popolare" really is and wherein it justifies itself as an economic and educational force, the author gives an historical sketch of the free public library abroad and at home. This preliminary matter is followed by a chapter on "How to form a free public library" and another on "How to conduct a free public library."

Change the name and dress of the characters and the fable fits the American community as aptly as the Italian: "In city or country, on large scale or small, the important thing is to have for the promoters a group of persons or an individual deeply convinced of the worth of the scheme in itself and of the urgency of seeing it accomplished; a person willing to spend some of his time and energy in prosecution and unwilling to stop before accomplishment."

There is a suggested constitution for a library for a city and another for one for a smaller community; a typical building plan, suggestions as to furniture, staff, administration, binding, periodicals, classification, accessioning, cataloging, withdrawal rules, registration, reference use, statistical forms, inventories, etc.

The second part of the book consists of a selected list of books suitable for a library of 1000 volumes, 300 of which are indicated as recommended for a library in a small rural center; an alphabetical arrangement by authors (1) of general works for adults, (2) children's books, (3) scientific and technical works, (4) reference works.

The titles suggested offer a curious and interesting study of Italian taste. No American names are included. Milton, Scott, Shakespeare, Shelley, Smiles ("Self help," "Character," "Thrift"), Swift from the English contingent; Daudet, Dumas, Hugo, La Fontaine, Racine, Rostand, Sue, Voltaire, Zola, and Verne the French; Goethe, Heine, Schiller, Sudermann the German; Björnson and Ibsen the Scandinavian; Dostoyevski, Gorki, Navicow, Sienkiewicz, Tolstoi the Slavic; Camoens and Cervantes the Peninsular; and Cicero, Demosthenes, Homer, Plutarch, Virgil the classic; all are in translation of course. It would be interesting to compare this selection of "Welt-Litteratur" with that included in a typical American collection of 1000 volumes.

The work is published at 1.75 lire and is imported by Stechert for 30 c. H. M. L.

Library Economy and History

PERIODICALS

Library World, June, contains "Guides to book selection," by J. D. Stewart and O. E. Clarke (pt. 2); "Fifteenth century books, an index catalogue," by R. A. Peddie, pt. 11; and "The Anglo-American cataloging code," by W. C. Berwick Sayers.

California Libraries, News Notes, April, is of especial interest because of the California library laws and the handbook and proceedings of the annual 1909 meeting of the California Library Association, which it contains.

Public Libraries, June, contains "The librarian's canons of ethics," by Charles Knowles Bolton; "Club women and programs," by Kate Louise Roberts; a continued article, "Municipal civil service in libraries," by Judson T. Jennings; "Some magazine editors," by Malcolm G. Wyer; "The public library in Japan," by T. Sano; and "A magazine campaign," by Asa Don Dickinson.

Vermont Library Commission Bulletin, June, contains a brief account of "How one library serves the townspeople," by Mary L. Congdon, librarian Gilbert Hart Library, Wallingford, Vt.; also "Library work in the schools," by Miss Mabel Ross Hovey.

Wisconsin Library Bulletin, Jan.-Feb., contains "Methods of getting non-fiction read," by Jeannette M. Drake, in which is emphasized the value of personal influence on the part of both trustees and librarians in cultivating a taste for non-fiction reading; distribution of selected lists on book marks or by outside firms and business corporations, or in the newspapers, or pasted in other books recommending to readers to allied subjects, also lectures, displays of books and pictures, special shelf arrangement, and the personal attention of the desk assistant are other methods recommended for furthering non-fiction reading. "A library boys' club," by Julia A. Robinson; "How to care for books in a library," by Harriet Price Sawyer; "Some fine editions of children's books" and "Questions and answers about cataloging," by Harriet Price Sawyer, are other brief, interesting articles in this number.

—March-April contains a brief article, "Electric lighting libraries," in which the advantages and disadvantages of the tantalum and tungsten lamps as compared with the Nernst lamp are discussed. The advantage of the two former is chiefly that they can be used either with the alternating or direct current and anyone can insert them. The tungsten lamp is claimed as a saver of 50 per cent. to consumers.

Two library institutes held on March 4 at Antigo and on March 5 at Eau Claire are described.

Bogsamlingsbladet, v. 4, no. 1, Jan.-March, 1909, contains the usual short reviews of new literature, an article by the present editor, Mr. Bjerre, on the future management of the journal and on matters pertaining to the Society "Danmarks Folkebogsamlinger," whose president he is. There is an article on Zacharias Nielsen, the well-known Danish author, and a complete list of the membership of the above mentioned society, covering some 650 libraries, reading circles and societies.

Ceska Osveta (Bohemian Culture), a bi-monthly magazine, published at Prague by the Bohemian, Moravian and Lower-Austrian Society for Bohemian Culture, contains in no. 1 of vol. 5 (1909), an article on post-graduate education of the youth, by L. Weigner, referring to the results of the university settlements in England (Toynbee Hall, boys' brigades, etc.); of the French "Association des instituteurs pour l'éducation et le patronage de la jeunesse, etc."; of the German "Jünglingsvereine" and the "Verein für die Fürsorge für die Schulentlassene Jugend"—and dealing with the efforts made in post-graduate education in Bohemia since 1905. This article is supplemented by an extensive program of lectures and talks for the young people.

No. 2 contains an article by Dr. Jos. Wolf on Public reading rooms; the continuation of an article (from vol. IV, 1908) on the Library and reading-room of the Society of Svatoopluk Cech, at Vienna; an article on the organization of the Society for Bohemian Culture; Bibliography, etc.

AMERICAN LIBRARIES

Braddock, Pa. Carnegie L. (20th rpt., 1908.) Added 5165; total 52,440. Issued, home use 397,649 (54.4 per cent. fict.).

The children's department was transferred from the third floor to the first. The work of reclassification of the library's collection was begun. The Wilkinsburg branch library was removed to better quarters.

Cedar Rapids (Ia.) F. P. L. (12th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 1898; total 16,895. Issued, home use 103,012. New cards issued 1558; cards in force 8469. Receipts \$10,657.24; expenses (\$10,246.20 (salaries of staff \$3985.70, books \$1932.18, binding \$705.16, periodicals \$355.88, printing and lib. supplies \$594.64).

The library has been open every day until 9 p.m. since Dec. 3, 1907. On Sundays, New Year's, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas no books are issued. This scheme of opening has proved satisfactory, and in the coming year it will be extended to include Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays, Memorial Day and Labor Day.

The library contains 114 Bohemian books which circulated 1012 times. "This collection should be increased until it represents

all of the great Bohemian authors and until it contains books on Bohemian art, music and education.

The children's department is now closed at seven o'clock every evening except Saturday. As very few books were borrowed on other evenings it was felt that all children who were in the habit of using the room for reading were old enough to sit quietly in the adult reading room. "The trial has proved successful and has practically solved the discipline problem, for since the first of September, when we closed the room, we have had very little trouble with noisy boys."

The school circulation was 12,627, and the school collection is being reduced to include only really forceful books. It is suggested that the employment of a trained school librarian to take charge of the reference libraries being placed by the Board of Education in each school building would be of value.

The library is continuing its work of cataloging the books of the High School library and of instruction of two school grades (the 9th and 11th) in the use of the library.

The association of citizens interested in building up an art collection in the library and known as the Public Library Art Association shows a spirit of enterprise, and all money paid in dues is to be spent in buying paintings and other works of art.

Chicago (Ill.) P. L. At a special meeting the Public Library Board yesterday ratified the nomination of five men whose names were submitted as suitable to comprise an advisory commission for the improvement and extension of Chicago's library.

The three residents of Cook County, chosen by President Abram Winegardner Harris, of Northwestern University, and President Harry Pratt Judson, of the University of Chicago, are: Thomas F. Holgate, dean of the College of Liberal Arts of the Northwestern University; George E. Vincent, dean of the College of Liberal Arts of the University of Chicago; Harry A. Wheeler, secretary of the Chicago Association of Commerce, and president of the Industrial Club.

The men selected by Dr. Herbert Putnam, librarian of Congress, as specialists in library administration, are D. D. C. Hodges, librarian of the Cincinnati Public Library and vice-president of the American Library Association; J. I. Wyer, Jr., director of the New York State Library and Library School and secretary of the American Library Association.

The first action of the board after a vote of approval for the nominations was to instruct the secretary, Harry G. Wilson, to invite all five nominees to become members of the advisory commission.

The letter, it was explained, would include a statement of the duties of their position —

to "inquire into the present condition of the Chicago Public Library and to suggest such improvements in the administration and extension of the library service as may be prompted by their inquiry into the management of this library and other libraries."

The commissioners will serve without compensation, the only appropriation being to cover the actual expenses of the inquiry, including the salary of an executive secretary whom they will be allowed to select for themselves. They will choose their own chairman and set the time for beginning work.

President Elton Lower, of the Civil Service Commission, will postpone the appointment of the Special civil service examining committee until the commission meets.

Connecticut State Board of Education has issued a pamphlet entitled "Traveling school libraries loaned by Connecticut Society of Colonial Dames of America." (Connecticut Public Library document, no. 2, 1909; whole number 58.) Ed. 8, 1909. 40 p. D.

This pamphlet gives titles of 81 small selected travelling libraries. Another pamphlet issued by the Board that may be of use in children's rooms is "Arbor and bird day annual," compiled by Frances A. Hurd. (Connecticut school document, no. 7, 1909; whole number 328.) 20 p. D.

Dallas (Tex.) P. L. (Rpt. — year ending April 30, 1909) (from libn's rpt. in local press). Added 2289; total 25,334. Issued, home use, non-fict. 21,797; fict. 63,379. Receipts \$10,025.55; expenses \$9548.68 (books \$1703.08, periodicals \$216.75, binding \$402.73, stationery \$151.75, salaries \$3973.44, building \$1485.70).

Four new stacks having been added to the open shelf room giving space for about 3000 more books in that department where is now shelved all the fiction, a collection of pedagogical books for teachers, all books of travel and all art books, including architecture, music and drama. The reference department has been doubled in space. The library has made a beginning during the year in the system of inter-library loans, sending books to the libraries at the State University at Austin, to Waxahachie and to Waco for the use of their readers.

The children's room has been removed to the second floor.

Easton (Pa.) P. L. (4th rpt. — year ending July 1, 1908.) Added 1285; total 20,467 (exclusive of gov. docs. and pm.). Issued, home use 73,091 (fict. 64.19 per cent.). New cards issued 2049; active membership 3724. Reading room attendance 16,064; reference room attendance 5185. Receipts \$8532.10; expenses \$8433.73 (salaries \$3903.37, books \$1157.21, periodicals \$261.54, building and grounds \$1122.88, furniture, fittings and tools \$784.83).

In the children's room there were 12,641

volumes circulated, 1942 less than in the previous year. The school work is increasing, the grammar schools having circulated from the libraries placed there 3192 volumes, a gain of 19.3 per cent. Four delivery stations were opened in June, 1907, just before the close of the fiscal year 1906-1907. The year 1907-1908 was the first year of work of these stations and resulted in a cost of \$200, and 2422 books circulated. This is cited as too great an expense, and it is stated that the stations will be discontinued unless there is a greater circulation or cheaper rates of delivery.

The rare collection of Americana inherited from the old Easton Library Company and now in the library's historical room has been further supplemented and strengthened so that the collection now contains 1200 volumes.

Fort Worth Tex. Carnegie P. L. Added 838 (224 gifts); total 16,898v., 4662 pm. Issued, home use 61,287 (fict. 70.49 per cent.). Registration 3277, of which 1513 were registrations. Active membership 7646.

During the year 783 volumes were classified and cataloged; 14,410 volumes were boxed, covered and mended in the work room of the library. In January a catalog was deposited at the county jail for the use of the prisoners. Books selected by the prisoners have been sent regularly to the jail. "It has been interesting to note the character of the books chosen. Of the 117 volumes circulated, 67 per cent. were fiction and 33 per cent. non-fiction. Of the fiction selected Dickens was the favorite, followed by George Eliot, Richard Harding Davis, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Marie Corelli, and A. Conan Doyle in the order named. Of the non-fiction classes, books on social science led, Mrs. Booth's "After prison—what?" being one of the books selected, followed by history, travel, science, biography, useful arts and literature in the order named. But one book of religion, philosophy and poetry were selected.

The books circulate freely among the prisoners, of which not any record is kept at the library. One of the books, Bigelow's "Mystery of sleep" was returned with the following astounding and illuminating annotation on the fly leaf: "This book has been read by 30 prisoners. They all liked it fine."

Mrs. Scheuber's report is typewritten and attractively backed with gray cartridge paper when folded; this forms a satisfactory cover for this neat and economical style of report.

Hopedale, Mass. Bancroft Memorial L. (23d rpt.—year 1908.) Added 540; total 9578. Issued, home use 22,551 (fict. 72 per cent.). No. cardholders 1148; new cardholders 162.

The reading room has been open 307 weekdays with 9201 visitors, an average of 29 each day.

Houston Tex. Lyceum and Carnegie L. (5th rpt.—year ending May 1, 1909.) Added 1891; total 26,037. Issued, home use 88,403. New registration 2128; total 13,878. Receipts \$8187.95; expenses \$7580.16 (salaries \$4186.50, salaries, colored branch \$32.50, light \$126.35, coal \$266.09, binding and rebinding \$327.89).

With the co-operation of the Colored Library Association a branch library was established for the negroes. It was agreed that the colored people should secure a location for the branch and raise \$100 for books the library board to give a like amount and place in the branch such duplicates as could be spared from the main library. The branch was formally opened on May 5.

Jacksonville (Fla.) F. P. L. (4th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 2418; total 17,734. Issued, home use, white adult 63,028; white juv. 21,638; colored 7182; total 91,848. New registration 1876 (colored 234); total registration and re-registration 1908, 2837. Receipts \$7790.20; expenses \$7758.23 (binding \$345.56, books \$1733.59, insurance \$427.80, light \$316.40, periodicals \$240.52).

The number of books loaned from the colored department has increased by over 2000 since 1907 and the registration has nearly doubled.

In spite of this increase the use of the department is small in proportion to the large colored population of the city, and it is almost certain that if a separate branch library for the colored people were to be established the registration and circulation would rapidly increase.

The work of the children's department has progressed satisfactorily. Many story books of mediocre character have been removed from circulation, causing a decrease of 493 volumes loaned over 1907. The children's librarian visited every white school in the city at least once during the year.

On a visit to Polk County, South Florida, the librarian collected a number of petrified animal remains, bones, mastodon tusks and shark's teeth from the phosphate mines at Newberry, which he has donated to the library and placed on exhibition.

Louisiana. Libraries. The New Orleans Library Club has brought out a pamphlet entitled "Handbook of Louisiana libraries, 1909" (41 p. O.).

It covers briefly information as to libraries in Louisiana, exclusive of small school libraries, of which a list can be obtained from the State Superintendent of Education. A practical working list on library literature is included. There are several illustrations; the libraries included are arranged alphabetically under name of place.

Louisville (Ky.) F. P. L. Colored Branch. A brief illustrated description of the new building has been issued in a small pamph-

let (1909). The building is 77 feet long, 45 feet wide, two stories high, built of brick with stone trimmings and tile roof. The cost of the plant, including site, improving grounds, building, light fixtures, furniture, books and periodicals amounts to \$41,709.02; the circulation in the branch was 123,761.

Lynn (Mass.) P. L. (46th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 5055 v., 1469 pm. (net increase 3979); total 80,895 v., 14,053 pm. Issued, home use 238,778. New registration 1835. Receipts \$22,048.73; expenses \$22,048.73 (salaries \$8124, binding \$1450.35, supplies \$219.61).

Owing to depression in business and changes in their departments, the delivery station at the works of the General Electric Company of Lynn was given up. This has been a matter of regret to the large number of employees, and it is hoped the management may request its re-establishment.

No statistics are available to show the entire use of the reference room, but in the children's room there were 4188 books, and from other parts of the library 43,742 books brought to the desk. There were 2468 books rebound, 505 of which were new and 1963 old. The reading rooms were open from 2 to 6 o'clock p.m. on Sundays, except from June to October. On the first of January was held the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Department for the blind, and on this day there were 49 persons present. During the year 40 sightless persons have visited the room, 25 being in regular attendance; 5 have been taught to read, and 403 books have been delivered for home use.

Mansfield (O.) Memorial L. Assoc. (21st rpt.—year 1908.) Added 500; total 14,390. Issued, home use 49,996 (fict. 28,503). Visitors to reading rooms 30,285.

The new library building was opened Dec. 19.

Milton (Mass.) P. L. (38th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 1200 (net increase); total 20,243. Issued, home use 66,258. New registration 356; total no. cardholders 3173. Receipts \$11,927.13; expenses \$9041.37 (binding \$482.05, books \$1021.49, light \$307.69, periodicals \$323.05, salaries \$4635.28).

Special attention was given during the year to reference work. The total attendance for the year was 54,172, an increase of 3422 for 1908. "Unusual attention has been given to the methods of the library for the purpose of eliminating unnecessary routine."

Nashville, Tenn. Carnegie L. (7th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 7363 v. (gifts 4466), 278 bound magazines, 12 bound newspapers; total 44,769. Issued, home use 115,104. Total no. borrowers' cards 24,114; total no. readers 15,283. Receipts \$12,862.81; expenses \$12,488.90 (salaries \$6247.50, furniture and fixtures \$1005.33, books \$2498.82, binding \$520.40).

The juvenile circulation for the year was

16,343. The most important feature of the year's work was the opening of three rooms on the third floor into a reference department.

The Nashville Academy of Medicine placed in the library 4000 volumes of medical books during the month of August. The cataloging of this collection was begun in September. The Engineering Association gave to the library in March 200 volumes.

A collection of books especially adapted to aid teachers has recently been bought for the library. A new school has been added to the list of schools served by the library, and now the library sends 5325 books to 20 day schools and 300 books to 5 night schools.

The work of the library has been further developed by several loans of valuable books from the Library of Congress. During the year 505 books have been rebound at a cost of \$305.

"The quality of the reading done by the patrons of the library in 1908 was much improved, and the proportion of non-fiction reading to that of fiction was appreciably increased."

The work of the library in relation to the clubs of the city shows a marked increase. The use of government documents has given more satisfactory results than heretofore.

A card catalog has been made for the bound newspapers. These bound files of Nashville daily papers cover the period from the year 1818 to the present time and constitute an invaluable record.

New Bedford (Mass.) F. P. L. (57th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 10,153 (811 by gift; total 111,009. Issued, home use 242,885 (from central lib. 118,125). New cards issued 1036. Expenses \$34,931.83 (salaries and wages \$11,604, books \$11,940.22, printing \$1112.69).

"Perhaps the most important new work of the library during the year has been the introduction of books in the grammar grades, from the third through the sixth grade being covered; 128 rooms being supplied with collections of books, from 40 to 50 in number, for circulation among the pupils in these rooms. The books are circulated by the teachers and monthly reports are rendered through the office of the superintendent of schools to the librarian. It has been very gratifying to note the eagerness with which the books have been received by the pupils and the intelligent and enthusiastic co-operation of the teachers in making this distribution of books a success."

New York Gen. Society of Mechanics' and Tradesmen's L. (Rpt.—year 1908; in 123d annual rpt. of Society.) Issued, home use 60,390; active membership 2357. In ref. dept. 4605 v. were consulted, an increase of 567.

New York Mercantile L. (88th rpt.—year 1908.) Added 7795 (net increase 1893). Is-

sued 108,934, of which 77,597 were for home use, Eng. fict. 69.77 per cent. Membership 4322. Receipts \$34,392.16; expenses \$31,713.30 (books \$9155.79, periodicals \$591.19, binding \$510.71, salaries \$10,772.36, stationery and printing \$577.69, advertising \$403.42, insurance \$556.51, delivery service \$3405.55).

The delivery service issued 35,142 volumes, 30,188 by wagons and messengers and 4954 by mail and express.

New York P. L. The Circulation Department has recently issued a printed list of "Recent books to interest teachers," the books mentioned being contained in the various branches with exceptions in case of certain branches; but in these instances the books will be supplied if there is sufficient demand.

New York (City) Society L. The building on University place, New York City, for over 50 years the home of the New York Society Library, is to be sold and a new building erected on a site further uptown. The library was founded in 1754 and has been in continuous operation since that date. It is the oldest existing public library in New York State, and there are only two older in the United States.

Newburgh (N. Y.) F. L. (7th rpt. — year ending June 30, 1908. Board of Education, Newburgh, N. Y. Annual report, 1908.) Added (net increase) 756; total 36,075. Issued, home use 76,316. New registration 684.

During the year 1238 volumes have been repaired at bindery. There are now 4559 volumes in school libraries and the co-operation with schools is on the increase. A new method of fumigation of books has been adopted by which books are placed on end, with leaves apart, on wire shelves in a specially constructed cabinet. Formaldehyde gas is generated in this cabinet and the books allowed to remain in the cabinet over night.

North Adams (Mass.) P. L. (25th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1908.) Added 2011 (net gain 1320); total, 30,032. Issued, home use 114,286. New registration 1561; active membership 7791.

Loans of books and pictures have been received from Williams College Library and the Forbes Library, Northampton.

Pennsylvania Home Teaching Society and F. C. L. for the Blind, Philadelphia. (Rpt., 1908.) Appreciation is expressed of the aid offered to the Society by the Free Library of Philadelphia, in which the library of the Society is housed. The number of books in the Society's library needs large additions. Visits have been paid and instruction in reading given to the blind of Philadelphia, Seranton, Wilkes-Barré, Carbondale, Pittston, Taylor, Luzerne, Parsons, Miners Mills, Dunmore, the Bethlehem, Nazareth and Hellertown, and Pittsburgh. The Society was represented by its secretary at the International confer-

ence for the blind, in Manchester, England, July 27-Aug. 2, 1908.

"The states of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Delaware, Maryland, Ohio and Wisconsin have made appropriations for the systematic training and employment of the adult blind in those states, and it is to be hoped that ere long Pennsylvania will establish a more comprehensive method than any at present provided for the training and employment of its adult blind."

Philadelphia (Pa.) F. P. L. (13th rpt. — year 1908). Total no. vols. 329,922; 59,064 pm. Issued, home use 2,007,167. No of readers' cards in use 154,611.

The year's record is chiefly notable for the completion of three new library buildings; for the erection of a fourth, which at the date of this report, was already roofed in; and for the promise of several sites for branches which will become available for library purposes as soon as the requisite money for maintenance is appropriated.

The need of an increased appropriation for books is emphasized.

The children's department has shown a circulation of 565,736 books from the various children's rooms. The story hour has been conducted with much success. The Department for the blind circulated 16,297, all cost of circulation of books outside the city was met by the Pennsylvania Home Teaching Society for the Blind.

The number of borrowers of embossed books during 1908 was 656, of whom 182 reside in Philadelphia, 127 in Pennsylvania and 347 in other states. The library needs books in other systems than Moon type, of which the library already owns everything in English. Many requests have been received for books in Braille and New York point.

During the year 74 travelling libraries were in use in 35 fire stations, 6 police stations, 2 telegraph stations and 31 other places; 7 new stations were added during the year, one that had been discontinued was renewed and 13 were discontinued.

The reference department has made special efforts during the past year to co-operate with various educational enterprises throughout the city. The department has also done considerable work of a bibliographical character.

The Periodical department was used by 105,204 readers during the year. In the Music department the scores of such compositions as are played by the Philadelphia orchestra and in the library's possession are in constant use. In the public documents department 40,850 bound volumes and pamphlets were received.

Reports of the 18 branch libraries are given in brief at the close of the report of the main library.

— In the May LIBRARY JOURNAL (p. 216) in the "Public library statistics for 10 American

cities," reprinted from the City Club of Chicago *Bulletin*, April 21, it is reported under "Circulation through children's department" that the Philadelphia Free Library has a juvenile circulation of 76,542. This is from the main library only. Including its 19 branches the Philadelphia Free Library has a juvenile circulation of 565,736.

Portland (Ore.) L. Assoc. (45th rpt.—year ending Dec. 27, 1908.) Added, for circulation 8969, for reference 1256; total in lib. 79,524. Issued, home use 406,784. Reference room attendance 50,059. Receipts \$45,182.33; expenses \$45,177.19 (binding \$3191.83, insurance \$90, light \$821.90, periodicals \$1177.08, salaries \$27,856.46).

The library shows an astonishing growth during the year, the circulation being 44 per cent. greater than in 1907. Miss Isom considers this increase due chiefly to the development of the branch and county service of the library. The congestion in the main library continues to be a serious problem. Telephone service has been installed and term of library membership has been extended from two to five years. Vacation cards were issued valid from June to October permitting the borrowers to draw 10 books at one time, provided but four were fiction.

The closing of the library for two days during time of taking inventory has been abolished that the public may not be deprived of the use of the library.

A music collection has been begun, and contains 203 volumes. The work of children's and reference department has shown excellent results. A boys' wireless club was started last year and has met one night a week. There have been lectures on electricity given to the boys and the club itself gave a successful demonstration of wireless telegraphy in the children's room. The work of the branch libraries has been hampered by an inadequate supply of books for their collections.

In the "county department" there are numbered 7 reading rooms, 14 deposit stations, libraries at 9 fire companies, 2600 new members, and a circulation of 58,169. Here also is needed a large supply of books not only that the shelves of the reading rooms may be better filled, but that there may be an adequate collection for exchange and request in the county department of the central library. The work with the county schools is now managed by the County Department, the circulation of books in the county schools amounted to 5199 and the suburban school circulation to 10,533.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. (31st rpt.—1908.) Added 7820; total 137,807. Issued, home use 186,857 (+2081 v. sent to schools, clubs, etc.). New cards issued 10,205. Re-

ceipts \$51,800.09; expenses \$49,949.22 (books \$6391.50, binding \$3637.23, periodicals \$891.66, pay-roll, lib. force \$21,885.89).

The increasing use of the information desk for purposes of verifying important questions at short notice has made the extension telephone indispensable. Considerable number of government publications have been received and proved of great service to the student. The quarters of the reference department are cramped.

The number of inter-library loans to this library during the past year is 17, and from this library to other libraries 125. In the foreign language department there are 11,625 volumes distributed through 14 different languages. From the children's department there were issued 53,850 volumes, of which 38,950 were works of fiction. Co-operation with the public schools has been increased. There have been 700 volumes added to the industrial library, 373 volumes added to the art library, 55 volumes and 144 music scores added to the music library. Work on the catalog of the Caleb Fiske Harris collection has been blocked by the illness of the custodian.

Extension to the central library building is urgently needed, and the financial needs of the library are also emphasized.

St. Louis (M.) Mercantile L. Association. (63d rpt.—1908.) Added 4324; total 133,778. Issued, home use 133,970 (fict. .659 per cent.). Attendance 202,400. New membership 445; total 3799. Receipts \$60,051.38; expenses \$56,772.32.

The number of members lost by death, resignation or removal from the city was 506, making the net loss in membership during the year, exclusive of perpetual and life members, 49.

The library was dropped from the list of regular depositories of government documents and the continuity of a long set was thereby broken. This was due to the fact that the Mercantile Library Association and the St. Louis Public Library are in the same congressional district and it has depended on some Missouri members of Congress other than the immediate representative of the library's community to designate the Mercantile Library Association as a depository.

Salem (Mass.) P. L. (20th rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, 1908.) Added 2229; total 50,787. Issued, home use 101,850. New registration 1158.

The circulation for the year has increased markedly, returning to nearly the same figures that it showed previous to 1905, when it showed a serious drop, a decrease which was not overcome during 1906 or 1907. Mr. Jones accounts for both decrease and the past year's increase by changed business conditions.

Seattle (Wash.) P. L. (18th rpt. — year 1908.) Added 8338; total 102,132. Issued, home use 555,374. New registration 17,241; total 36,470. Receipts \$120,308.29; expenses (total regular expense) \$78,169.59 (salaries \$46,221.19, books \$9105.22, periodicals \$1939.83, binding \$6220.23).

The library is now out of debt, with the exception of one loan of about \$14,000 made to the library board. The staff was enlarged during the year by the creation of eight new positions.

The library bindery turned out 7368 volumes of new binding during the year exclusive of miscellaneous and repair work. The cost of the binding work, including salaries, was \$6220.23. Though this is a large expense the work is considered sufficiently excellent to justify it. In the cataloging department more extensive work will be pursued during the coming year, as catalogs for the Ballard University and Columbia branches are to be made.

Hours of opening in the children's room have now been altered so that the room is open every weekday until nine o'clock, instead of being open only one evening a week.

An event of great importance to the reference department was the designation of the library as a depository for Congressional documents.

A fine arts department was established in 1907 and has been more than justified by its use during 1908. The attendance in this department was 17,364, circulation of books for home use 6452 and of pictures 2108. This work is handicapped by lack of funds and of books.

The periodical department shows marked development. There were about 175,000 readers in the periodical department and about 218,000 readers in the newspaper department. A union list of periodical subscriptions for 1909 in this library and the University of Washington library was printed in December.

Somerville (Mass.) P. L. (36th rpt. — year 1908.) Added 6305; total 82,879. Issued, home use 448,224 (fict. 316,224). Reference room attendance 10,109. Receipts \$21,234.87; expenses \$21,233.41 (books and periodicals, \$5007.18; binding \$3680.53; salaries \$10,109.16).

The children's department has had a circulation of 79,750, of which 64,185 was fiction; the school department had a circulation of 120,192.

The loss of books which was a serious problem of the library two years ago, when the inventory taken showed that 725 were missing for one year's record, has been greatly reduced, the latest inventory showing that for the years 1907-1908 there were 322 books missing.

A new registration has been begun.

The pedagogical books of the library have all been placed in the school librarian's room for the greater convenience of the teachers.

The new branch library building to be known as the West Somerville branch library and to succeed the present West Somerville agency, is approaching completion. It is planned to have the branch open afternoon and evening of week days and all day and evening on Saturdays, with no Sunday opening.

University of California L. The increased revenue to the University through the operation of a new tax act, recently adopted by the California legislature, gives opportunity for larger expense and consequently greater development of the University's various departments. For the equipment of these libraries there will be expended the additional revenue of \$40,000.

University of Illinois L. (42d rpt. — year ending April 20, 1909; from libn's summary.) Added 18,723 (exclusive of 2606 pm.); total 127,106 (+15,698 pm.). Issued, home use 43,212; library use 35,328; periodicals received 1429; cataloged 18,488; new cards written 17,891. Expenses \$91,349.27 (books \$61,949.13, periodicals \$4569.84, binding \$3830.12, salaries \$21,000).

The increase in book orders is evident by a comparison with previous years: 15,035 being sent out this year, 5873 in 1908. This is nearly a triple growth. Special agents have been used this year, one for mathematical books, another for old French books, etc. It will be desirable to select agents in England, in France, and in Germany, with whom to place the major part of our difficult book orders, continuing our orders for books in print with our agents in America.

The increase in the amount of binding, showing 4352 volumes sent to Chicago, brings out forcibly the need and advantage of the library's own bindery. Figures are presented showing this saving.

The mislaid and scattered sheet music was sorted over, mounted in special sized pamphlet binders, labelled, and shelved upright in a pigeon-hole case.

Statistics of the Sunday opening from 2-6 p.m. show that an average of 20 only make use of this privilege. It is recommended that it be discontinued as it does not seem worth while to maintain it for so few.

The weekly column in the students' daily *Illini* has been a feature of the year's work. This has consisted of annotated reading lists on live subjects, new books added during the week, and explanations of the classification, catalog, shelf list, and similar aids.

—The library recently purchased the library of the late Prof. Moritz Heyne, of the University of Gottingen. It contains about 5200 volumes on German literature. Prof. Heyne was one of the leading German philologists, and as a result of his long service as an editor of the Grimm Dictionary the library is especially rich in lexicograph-

ical works, including practically all German dictionaries from the earliest times.

Utica (N. Y.) P. L. The library has issued a pamphlet giving a sketch of the development of the library from the time of its reorganization in 1893 to the year 1908. "The first authentic mention of the existence of a public library for Utica is 1825. From time to time, name, location, administration and character changed until finally the Utica City Library, under the management of the school board, supplied the city demands from 1842 to 1893. At that time for various reasons a reorganization seemed necessary. To meet this need a new corporation was formed and a charter from the Regents of the University of the State of New York was granted to the Utica Public Library June 21, 1893. At the time of the reorganization in 1893 about 10,000 volumes were on the shelves; in 15 years the total number has become 52,238. The circulation, number of readers, work with school children have also increased year by year. The cornerstone of the new library building was laid on May 4, 1903, and the building was opened to the public for inspection on Dec. 12, 1904. The building was described in *L. J.*, October, 1905, p. 803.

—A serious theft of about 500 pieces of valuable coins were stolen from the exhibition of a collection of old coins, owned by F. F. Budd, of Utica, and now held in the library. The burglar or burglars effected an entrance into the library at night.

Villisca (Iowa). The new library building, the gift of Mr. Carnegie, was opened with appropriate exercises Feb. 5.

Western Reserve Historical Society L. In tract no. 91 of the Society "Manual of the Western Reserve Historical Society" (33 p. O. Cleveland, 1907), it is stated that the library's collections of source books of history relating to the Northwest Territory and especially to Ohio is practically complete. The collection of statistical publications of state and municipality is also complete.

Williamsport, Pa. *James V. Brown L.* The new art and subsidiary reference room, recently over the stack room, has been opened to the public. The room is 21 x 50 feet, and is finished in Flemish oak. In the center of the room is a case 14 feet long, with sliding shelves, for large art and extra illustrated books. On the north wall the collection of books relating to Pennsylvania numbering 1000 volumes has been placed.

The two ends of the room have been assigned to bound newspapers and the Debates of Congress respectively.

Winnipeg, Manitoba. *Carnegie L.* An addition costing \$39,000 was opened to the public March 11, with appropriate exercises.

Wisconsin. Libraries. Cary, C. P. Educating all the people all the time; reading in the most polyglot state in the Union. (*In Harper's Weekly*, May 22, p. 24-25.)

"In addition to the free libraries in the cities three factors promote the reading of the citizens of Wisconsin—the school libraries which all communities are required to possess, the travelling libraries which are sent to hundreds of our settlements, rural free delivery which brings the weekly and daily papers.

By authority of a state law which has been in operation for nearly 20 years a per capita tax of 10 cents for each child of school age is annually levied for rural library purposes. More than one million books have thus been accumulated in the country and village school libraries of the state. Counting the books in the high-school libraries, and those in the cities of the first, second and third classes, doubtless not less than two million books not ordinarily counted as text-books are embraced in the public-school libraries of the state. This number is receiving annual additions averaging not less than a hundred thousand. In Wisconsin no school is without school libraries.

With the growth of many of the high-school and rural-school libraries has come a very marked demand for aid in organizing such libraries along modern methods. This demand is being met in co-operation with the staff of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. . . . High schools that are located in places where no public libraries exist are being materially helped in debate and thesis work by means of material gathered by the Library Commission of the state and circulated through its travelling-library department.

At present most of the country schools have a card catalog of the books in the school library, and the teacher in assigning a lesson asks her pupils to report on certain topics which are discussed in books to be found in the school library. The card catalog answers for the pupils the questions as to books and pages where the information is to be found. . . .

Travelling libraries have furnished the means for the establishment of farmers' clubs, local literary and debating societies. Books on good roads, forestry, American and English literature, United States history, circulate extensively in Wisconsin. According to the Library Commission, the sort of reading-matter desired in different communities varies widely. In the southern and older part of the State the books must be of a solid nature and up to date as to publication. In the northern part of the state, communities distant from rural free-delivery routes fail to read the book reviews, hence are better satisfied with the older publications. With the establishment of "parcels post,"

readers along rural free-delivery lines will be able to secure more literature than at present, and the reading of valuable literature will supersede in a large measure the reading of cheap and trashy books."

Wisconsin State Historical Society L. The library has received an interesting gift in a collection of photographs of early steamboats on the Ohio and the upper Mississippi rivers. These pictures were originally collected by Captain John Bigelow, of La Crosse, a famous steamboat man of 40 or 50 years ago. There are 164 specimens in the collection which is regarded as unique.

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. (49th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, 1908). Added 8188 (net increase 3912); total 167,313. Issued, home use 308,808; reference use 117,606. New registration, 4309; total 23,261. Receipts \$52,212.70; expenses \$49,570.19 (salaries \$27,612.45; books \$9010.75; periodicals \$2118.84; binding \$2872.56; fuel and lights \$2942.79; other supplies \$5012.80).

Mr. Samuel S. Green, who has been librarian for 38 years, early in the year announced his desire to retire in January, 1909. He resigned at that time, and was succeeded by Robert K. Shaw, for four years the assistant librarian of the library. (An appreciation of Mr. Green, as testimonial to his services to the library world appears in this number.)

There is a crying need in Worcester for branch buildings. Five, at least, should be built at once in large settlements, situated between one and one-half and three miles from the main building and distant also from each other.

The main building greatly needs enlargement as the accommodations for books are nearly exhausted, larger reading rooms are needed, and rooms for other work which either cannot now be done at all or else is hampered by lack of space.

There was an increase in the use of the library last year of 78,390 volumes. In the reference department the phase of work which has developed most rapidly has been the loaning of reference books for home use to trustworthy persons. The usual exhibitions and lectures have been given.

The circulating department had a very large increase (18 per cent.) in the use of its books. This was not only at the main building but also at the nine delivery stations. It has sent out books to several new deposit stations, and greatly needs more books that it may increase this work.

The children's department has established a new alcove for teachers, where they may find the books they need in their school work. A "story hour" for children under 10 and a girls' club for girls over 10 have been started. The "pledge book" has been introduced to create a sense of responsibility among the children as to the care of library books, and an earnest effort has been made to improve the quality of reading done.

FOREIGN

Battersea (Eng.) P. Ls. (22d rpt. — year ending March 31, 1909.) Added 1702 (gifts 322); total 56,879, of which 18,709 are in the reference department, 20,844 in the lending department of the central library. Issued, home and ref. use 427,287. Number of registered borrowers 14,726.

There were 109,401 books consulted in the reference library, which is the highest record in any one year and almost trebles the figures of five years ago.

Brighton, Eng. County Borough of Brighton P. L. Museums and Art galleries. (3d rpt. — year ending Nov. 16, 1908.) Added 1542 to lending lib., 1689 to reference lib. Issued, home use 251,689. Tickets were issued to 3474 new borrowers. The total number of new tickets issued during the year was 3569.

The library has received a number of valuable donations. At the annual stock taking in July, 34 volumes were found missing. Three volumes reported missing at the 1907 stock taking were found to have been returned to shelves.

Budapest, Hungary. Municipal L. It was incorrectly stated in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for April, that the report of this library for the year 1908 recorded 25,562 volumes. The actual statement of the report is 25,562 *works*, the number of volumes being about 75,000.

Cardiff, Wales. The threatened curtailment of the school library system reported in the columns of a recent issue of *The Library World* has, it is stated in that journal for May, been averted by the united action of the Education Committee and the Council.

Christiana, Norway. The Deichmanske Bibliotek (Public Library of Christiana, Norway) has issued its eighth annual report. Its progressive librarian, Mr. Haakon Nyhuus, can, as usual, point to excellent results in spite of the still modest income (some \$17,000). A new story has been acquired in the same building for the central library. The Newark charging system was adopted during the year instead of the Browne. The number of volumes circulated amounted to 534,395, a slight decrease from the preceding year, owing largely to an epidemic of smallpox in the capital. Some 68,000 volumes were consulted in the central reading room.

The new accessions amounted to 5155 volumes, bringing the stock up to 93,209 volumes. An index to Norwegian periodicals of some 300 pages was issued during the year.

A select list of the library's accessions 1907-8 and 1908-9 is also at hand, covering 122 pages. It is arranged according to the Dewey Decimal system, the juvenile books, some 20 pages, being listed separately. The accessions of American and English literature cover some eight pages, a notably high percentage for a Scandinavian library.

Croydon (Eng.) P. Ls. The last issue of the library's quarterly, *The Croydon Crank*, January-March, contains besides brief literary articles a paper, "The organization and conduct of reading circles, adult and juniors," by W. J. Harris.

Dundee, Scotland. Two branch libraries were formally opened on April 9. Both buildings were presented by Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

Liverpool (Eng.) P. Ls. G. T. Shaw, master and librarian of the Liverpool Athenæum, has been appointed chief librarian of the Liverpool Public Libraries in succession to the late Mr. Peter Cowell. This appointment is noted in the *Library Assistant* for May.

London. It is reported in the *Library World* for May that there has recently been an epidemic of book thefts in London. These thefts have occurred most numerous in libraries under the closed shelf system, two of the thieves being caught in open access libraries.

MISCELLANEOUS

CARNEGIE LIBRARY GIFTS. Carnegie, Andrew. Fifty million dollars; the library gift business. (*In Collier's Weekly*, June 5, 1909.)

The following tabular statement is made of Carnegie gifts:

(Revised to Dec. 31, 1908.)			
	Buildings.	Branches.	Amount.
United States.....	959	208	\$34,870,745
Canada.....	86	5	2,059,415
England and Wales....	329	59	7,859,550
Ireland.....	42	21	724,610
Scotland.....	105	18	2,975,080
New Zealand.....	14		146,250
British West Indies....	5		119,000
Australia & Tasmania..	2		47,500
South Africa.....	3		23,570
Seychelles Islands.....	1		10,000
Fiji Islands.....	1		7,500
College Libraries.....			3,653,753

Total..... \$51,596,903

HOFFMAN, U. J. What the library means to the school. (*In Harper's Weekly*, April 24, 1909, page 24-25.) II.

Describes the Pupils' Reading Circle in the state of Illinois. The author is the president of this circle in that state.

The following are some quotations from this article:

"The teachers of to-day appreciate the value of good reading, and see that this means of character promotion can be most effectively employed in the school. They know that with no library in the school the real work of the school cannot be done."

"Wherever the County superintendent takes an interest in the work it makes this surprising progress. When he does nothing the children are deprived of the greatest boon that can come into their young lives. Many of them will fail to enter into the abundant and efficient life because this office of such great opportunities is held by one who fails to see the significance of good reading in youth."

INCUNABULA. Josephson, Aksel G. S. Incunabula in the Senn collection at the John Crerar Library. (*In the Journal of the American Medical Association*, May 29, 1909.)

LEE, G. W. Commercial research. (Stone & Webster, "Current literature references on public utilities, etc., for 1908.") May, 1909. 15 p. D.

This pamphlet offers some hints as to the development and use of technical literature collections. Mr. Lee attended the Boston Chamber of Commerce and Merchants' Association New England Tour, representing the Stone and Webster Library department.

LIBRARIAN'S SERIES. Mr. John Cotton Dana, librarian of the Free Public Library of Newark, N. J., and Mr. Henry W. Kent, assistant secretary of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, are preparing to bring out a series of six volumes entitled "The librarian's series: being six books of interest to booklovers."

The series will be published by the Elm Tree Press, Woodstock, Vermont, at an early date, provided a sufficient number of subscriptions is secured. The subscription price for the entire series will be \$5, payments to be due for the several numbers of the series as issued. A circular describing the series has been issued by the Elm Tree Press, together with printed order blank for each or any of the volumes of the series.

"The old librarian's almanack," [32 p.] is the first volume of the series. It is the reprint of an old pamphlet, published in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1773. It presents in a quaint manner the opinions of a librarian and booklover of 140 years ago, and is in curious contrast with the modern ideas of the library administrator. There are but two copies of the pamphlet known to exist and no previous reprints have been made.

The second volume of the series by Austin Baxter Keep is entitled "The Rev. John Sharpe and his proposal for a public library at New York, 1713" [64 p.]. Rev. John Sharpe was English chaplain at Fort Anne, New York City, and his plans for the establishment of a public library in that city seem even to present-day perspective almost amazing in scope.

The third volume, "The librarian," by Edmund L. Pearson, will cover selections from that writer's articles which have appeared in "The Librarian" department of the Boston *Evening Transcript* during the past three years.

The fourth volume of the series is entitled "Some of the best books on the history and administration of libraries published prior to 1800," an annotated list compiled by Beatrice Winsor [32 p.].

"The hoax concerning the burning of the Alexandrian library," by Joseph Octave Dele-

pierre. Lond., 1860-61; trans. and annotated by George Parker Winship, librarian of the John Carter Brown Library, Providence, R. I. [32 p.] is the fifth volume in the series. This essay appears in French in the *Miscellanies of the Philobiblon Society*, v. 6; it disposes once more of the popular error that the books in the Alexandrian Library were burned by Omar, a companion of Mahomet.

The sixth and last volume of the series covers "The early history of libraries," by Karl Dziatzko. This article appeared in Pauly's *Encyclopædia of classical antiquities*, and has been translated and adapted by Edward Harmon Virgin, librarian of the General Theological Seminary. [48 p.]

LIBRARY TRAINING IN NORMAL SCHOOLS. A course of study in library methods is given by the Geneseo State Normal School and described in its year-book for 1908-9, pp. 20-23.

The aims of this course are not to train librarians, but to acquaint teachers with library indexes and helps invaluable in the preparation of their work, to prepare them for selecting books for supplementary work, for directing the children's reading, and making the school library valuable to pupils.

There is given:

1. Course of ten lessons on the use of the library, for the entering class, covering—
 - a. The collecting material for a subject and making a bibliography.
 - b. Value and use of reference books.
 - c. Reference books especially valuable to teachers.
2. Course of ten lessons for senior class.
 - a. Lessons on the use and care of books to be given pupils during the school course.
 - b. Principles to guide in the selections of books for children.
 - c. Helps in the selection of books for the school library.
 - d. Use of pictures in school work.
 - e. Directing the reading of children.
 - f. Help teachers should get from the public library.
 - g. Help teachers can get from the state.

Details as to these courses are given in the year book as noted above.

PHONOGRAPHS IN LIBRARIES. In 1904, at the St. Louis conference of the American Library Association, Professor Guido Biagi, librarian of the Royal Library at Florence, and of international fame, predicted, in his witty address, the use of the gramophone in the library of the future. He said in part:

"There will be a few readers but an infinite number of hearers, who will listen from their own homes to the spoken paper, to the spoken book. University students will listen to their lectures while they lie in bed, and, as now with us, will not know their professors even by sight. But even if the graphophone

does not produce so profound a transformation as to cause the alphabet to become extinct and effect an injury to culture itself; even if, as we hope will be the case, the book retains its place of honor, and instruction through the eyes be not replaced by that through the ears (in which case printed books would be kept for the exclusive benefit of the deaf); still these discs, now so much derided, will form a very large part of the future library."

We note, with interest, that the Academy of Sciences at Vienna is stated as having decided upon the creation of phonographic archives, which will be divided into three parts, and which will probably be the most remarkable library on record. The first section will be devoted to examples of European languages and dialects of the different peoples spoken at the beginning of the 20th century. The second will contain examples of music and song of the same period, while the third section will be reserved for the records of contemporary orators, so that our successors will not only be able to judge of their oratorical powers, but also their accent.

ROBERTS, Albert E. Co-operation between school and library. (*In the Journal of Education* (London). April, 1909. pages 290-291.)

The following paragraph from this article shows what the author attempts to do:

"In England the public library and school are totally separate institutions; there is no attempt at co-operation between them except in a few isolated instances; in America the connection is close, and the links are being drawn closer and closer together every year. The public library in the latter country is made one of the most vital and potent factors in the æsthetic education of the child. My main purpose here is to give some idea of the method of co-operation as it presented itself to me during a recent visit to America, with a view to stimulating a little active interest in a similar direction in England."

Librarians will also be interested in the following statement which occurs later on:

"The whole system of libraries is under the American Library Association."

SPOFFORD, Ainsworth Rand. Ainsworth Rand Spofford, 1825-1908. A memorial meeting at the Library of Congress on Thursday, Nov. 12, 1908, at four o'clock, the Librarian of Congress presiding.

This volume (84 p. O.) presents introductory remarks by Herbert Putnam; addresses on Dr. Spofford, by Henry B. Blackwell, William Dawson Johnston, Theodore W. Noyes, Alice C. Fletcher, Walter Hough and Alexander B. Hagner. A "List of the writings of Dr. Spofford," by A. P. C. Griffin, completes the volume. It is attractively printed on soft cream paper, bound in dark brown paper, and offers an appropriate testimonial.

Gifts and Bequests

Fredonia, N. Y. *Darwin R. Baker L.* A gift of \$1000 from S. M. Clement, president of the National Marine Bank of Buffalo, has been received by the library as the first subscription toward a fund necessary for the improvement of the library.

Greenfield (Mass.) L. Assoc. A bequest of \$3000 has been received by the will of the late Mrs. Maria L. Hosmer. The fund is to be known as the George A. Hovey fund and is to remain intact, the income to be used for library purposes.

Malden (Mass.) P. L. The late Mrs. Mary E. Smith, of Malden, has left to the library a bequest of \$1000, the interest of which is to be used in purchasing books.

St. Johnsville, N. Y. A gift of \$500 has been offered to the village for the purchase of a suitable lot and for the erection of a free public library building, provided an annual tax of \$500 be imposed for maintaining the library. The proposed gift comes from Joseph H. Reaney.

Stratham, N. H. By the will of Mrs. Emma B. Wiggins, of Stratham, N. H., a sum of \$10,000 has been left to that town for the purpose of erecting a library.

Librarians

BELDEN, Charles Francis Dorr, has been appointed state librarian of Massachusetts to succeed the late Mr. Caleb B. Tillinghast. Mr. Belden was educated in schools at Niagara Falls and Buffalo and at Harvard University, from which he received the degree of LL.D. in 1898. He was admitted to the bar of New York State in 1899. In the same year he returned to Cambridge and became secretary of the faculty of law and held this position until 1902, when he entered upon his library service, first as assistant librarian of the Harvard Law School and later as librarian of the Social Law Library of Boston, which post he has held up to the present time.

BROWN-SIM. Miss Edna A. Brown, graduate of Pratt Library School, was married June 1 to Mr. Will E. Sim, of Urbana, Ill.

COOPER, Miss Isabella M., B.L.S. State Library School, 1908, has been engaged by the Iowa Summer School for Library Training as instructor in classification and the allied subjects.

EVANS, George H., has resigned his position as branch librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library to become librarian of the Woburn (Mass.) Public Library, to succeed Mr. William R. Cutter, who has been for 26 years librarian, and who now becomes

librarian emeritus. Mr. Evans will begin his duties on Oct. 1.

GLEASON, Miss Caroline F. (Pratt), is resigning her position at the head of the Children's Department in the Utica Public Library to be married to Mr. S. J. Humeston, of Montana.

GOODRICH, Nathaniel L., B.L.S., N. Y. State Library School, 1906, has resigned the librarianship of the University of West Virginia to become librarian of the University of Texas.

GREEN, SAMUEL SWETT. An attractively bound pamphlet as a tribute to Mr. Green has been recently issued under the title, "Samuel Swett Green, Worcester Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass., director 1867-1871, librarian 1871-1909. Worcester, Mass., Blanchard, 1909. 18 p. O.

HYDE, Miss Mary E., N. Y. State Library School, 1902-3, goes to the San Francisco Public Library as head of the Catalog department July 1.

JENKS, Edward M. J., assistant editor of *Musical America*, will during the summer months, give up his regular work to catalog the library of U. S. Military Academy at West Point, returning to his editorial work in the fall when he will also be special correspondent for the *Boston Post*. Mr. Jenks has also been engaged as reviser of the Stokes' "Encyclopedia of music and musicians," the first edition of which appeared in the latter part of the year 1908.

JOHNSTON, W. Dawson, was appointed on May 26 as librarian of Columbia University to succeed the late Dr. James Hulme Canfield, and will begin his new duties not later than Sept. 1. Mr. Johnston has been assistant librarian of the Brooklyn Public Library since May 1 and it is with the cordial understanding of the trustees and librarian of this institution that he accepts his new appointment to one of the foremost posts in the library field. Mr. Johnston is 38 years of age, a native of Vermont, and received his collegiate and university education at Brown, Chicago and Harvard Universities. He served for three years as instructor in history at the University of Michigan and for two years at Brown University. Mr. Johnston's library experience has been markedly on the educational side. He was seven years in the Library of Congress, where his time was given chiefly to classification and bibliographic work. During the spring semesters of 1906 and 1907 he was lecturer in library history and bibliography at the Simmons College Library School.

For two years, 1907-1909, he was librarian of the Bureau of Education, going from

that post to the Brooklyn Public Library. Under his administration the library of the Bureau of Education was developed in organization, in co-operative activity with other libraries, and the scope of its work was much extended.

Mr. Johnston has been secretary of the Bibliographical Society of America since 1906, and president of the District of Columbia Library Association, 1907-1909. He is the author of the "History of the Library of Congress" and a contributor to professional and other journals.

KING, Miss Julia E., N. Y. State Library School, 1905-6, has resigned her position as assistant in Vassar College Library to become cataloger for the Board of Water Supply, New York City.

LYTLE, Miss Mary, N. Y. State Library School, 1908-9, has been appointed cataloger, Public Library, Superior, Wis.

NOYES, Miss Miriam (Pratt, 1909), was appointed librarian of the Oshkosh Public Library and assumed the duties of the position June 1.

PARKER, H. W., librarian of the Mechanics' Institute of New York City, celebrated his 35th year with that institution recently.

PETTEE, Julia, has resigned her position as classifier and cataloger in the Vassar College Library to accept the position as head cataloger of the library of the Union Theological Seminary, of New York City.

RODEN-JOHNSON. Mr. Carl B. Roden, superintendent of the Order department of the Chicago Public Library and acting librarian, and Miss Harriette Amy Johnson of Chicago were married early in June.

ROSENMÜLLER, Miss Anne (Pratt), for three years past in charge of the periodicals in the library of the University of California, will be married June 30 to Mr. Berthold Wath, of Oakland.

VAN DE CARR, Miss Sarah (Pratt), who resigned recently from the Newark (N. J.) Public Library, was married May 22 to Mr. W. J. De Lamater, of Hudson, N. Y.

WALLACE, Miss Charlotte E. (Pratt), has resigned her position as head of the East Liberty branch of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, to become head of the Circulating department of the Seattle (Wash.) Public Library.

WHEELER, Joseph L., graduate of the New York Public Library School, has been appointed to the position of assistant librarian of the Public Library of the District of Columbia, to succeed Mr. Vitz, who has recently been appointed to the position of assistant to the director of the New York State Library. Mr. Wheeler has the A.B. and A.M. degrees from Brown University,

taken in 1906 and 1907 respectively. He was employed in the Brown University Library and in the Providence Public Library for a number of years before going to the New York State Library School.

WINKLER, E. W., has been recently elected as state librarian of Texas, which is his second appointment to this office, having also served in that capacity in 1906-1907. Mr. Winkler is well suited to work in connection with the Library and Historical Commission of this state, as he is an active member of the Texas Library Association. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1899, was fellow in history of the same university, 1899-1900, and received degree of M.A. He taught history for a few years at Blinn College, Brenham, and attended the University of Wisconsin summer school in 1902. He was archivist of the Texas State Library, 1903-1906. From 1907-1909 he was chief clerk of the Department of Agriculture.

WOOD, Miss Mary E. (special student, Pratt), has an article in the *Boone Review*, February, 1909, published by Boone College, Wu Chang, China, describing the new library plans and the contemplated extension of the library's work. \$2800 are needed to complete the payments on the building. The father of one of the Chinese students has given \$1000.

Cataloging and Classification

CATALOGO DI LIBRI PER LA FORMAZIONE DI BIBLIOTECHE POPOLARI. Turin, Paravia, 1909. 25 p. O.

FRATI CARLO E SEGARIZZI ARNALDO. Catalogo dei codici marciani italiani, a cura della R. Biblioteca Nazionale di S. Marco in Venezia. v. 1 (Fondo antico; Classi-1-3). Modena. Ferraguti, 1909. 8°, p. xii+379.

Contents: 1, Londo antico (Zaneth); 2, Bibbia e scrittori ecclesiastici; 3, Giurisprudenza; e filosofia; 4, Medicina e storia naturale; 5, Giunte e correzioni; 6, India.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS. Catalogue Division. List of subject headings. (Additions and corrections.) 11 p. O. 1909, April (no. 2).

— Want list of American 18th century newspapers. 1909. Washington, Library of Congress. 43 p. O.

— Want list of publications of educational institutions. 1909. Washington, Library of Congress. 14 p. O.

SAN FRANCISCO (CAL.) PUBLIC LIBRARY. Music catalogue. San Francisco, 1909. 16 p. O.

The re-establishment of the library's collection of music has been aided by the advice of Julius R. Weber.

SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS. Advance sheets of third edition of Checklist of United States public documents: LC. Library of Congress.

VIRGINIA STATE LIBRARY. *Bulletin* January, April, 1909. v. 2, nos. 1 and 2: Finding list of history (except American history). Richmond, Va., 1909.

This catalog covers books in the Virginia State Library. Titles are in alphabetical arrangement under a few leading subject headings. At the end of the list is an index in which the names of authors, editors, and translators and subject words of titles are arranged in one alphabet.

Bibliography

ALASKA. Greely, Maj.-Gen. A. W. Handbook of Alaska: its resources, products, and attractions; with maps and illustrations. N. Y., Scribner, 1909. c. 13+280 p. O. cl., **\$2 net.

Bibliographies at end of chapters.

ARCHITECTURE. Guppy, Henry and Vine, Guthrie. A classified catalogue of the works on architecture and the allied arts in the principal libraries of Manchester and Salford; with alphabetical author list and subject index; ed. for the joint architectural committee of Manchester. Manchester, University Press, 1909. 310 p. O.

This union catalog is the outcome of a suggestion made in 1904 at a meeting of the joint architectural committee of Manchester which is composed of representatives of the University of Manchester, of the Manchester Education committee and of the Manchester Society of Architects. The principal libraries of Manchester and Salford contained extensive collections of works on architectural subjects, but there was, previous to the compilation of this catalog, no means of determining what works were included in which collection. The catalog includes some titles not contained in these collections, but which have been included as "desiderata" with a view to strengthening the equipment of the libraries.

The catalog is classified according to the Dewey system, with some variations explained in the preface. A scheme of repetition of entries has been followed for books that could applicably be placed in different classes. Owing to the variable classifications of different libraries this catalog is not an index to the shelf-classification of every volume in its particular library, but is rather a guide to the contents of these libraries.

ARTS, FINE. Quaritch, Bernard. Catalogue of rare and valuable books on the fine arts.

pt. 2: Painting, engraving, etc. (continued). Lond., 1909. 96 p. O.

ARTS, USEFUL. Dizionario di cognizioni utile; enciclopedia elementare di scienze, lettere, arti, agricoltura, diritto, medicina, geografia, [etc.], fondata sui programmi delle scuole secondarie e ad uso delle famiglie colte, compilata da specialisti nelle varie materi. Disp. 72 (principio del v. 3). Turin, 1909. 8°, p. 1-32.

ASIA. LANGUAGE. List of grammars, dictionaries, etc., of the languages of Asia in the New York Public Library. (*In New York Public Library Bulletin*, May, p. 319-378.)

BALZAC, Honoré de. Gillette, Frederica B., comp. Title index to the works of Honoré de Balzac. Bost., Boston Book Co., 1909. 17 p. O. pap., 25 c.

This indexes seven different editions of Balzac, every entry giving the editions in which any special title appears, with the paging of the volume on which the special story is given. The separate editions are: two in French, published by Calmann-Lévy; two originally published in Mrs. Wormeley's translation by Roberts Brothers, one by the Gebbie Publishing Co., one by Barrie & Son, and one by Macmillan & Co.

BIRDS. Bibliography of writings [by R. W. Shufeldt] that bear directly upon the anatomy and classification of birds. (*In New York State Museum bulletin* 130: Osteology of birds, by R. W. Shufeldt, p. 357-381. Albany, 1909.)

BLIND, BOOKS FOR THE. Books for the blind. (*In Indiana State Library Bulletin*, May, p. 3-5.)

— List of embossed books, maps, appliances and tangible apparatus for the use of the blind. Bost., Howe, 1909. 34 p. O.

BLIND, LIBRARIES FOR. Biblioteca circolante pei ciechi in Roma: [relazione del] 1908 e regolamento. Roma, tip. La Speranza, 1909. 8°, p. 11.

CLARK, J. Willis. The care of books: an essay on the development of libraries and their fittings from the earliest times to the end of the eighteenth century. 2d and cheaper ed., with 164 illustrations. N. Y., Putnam, 1909. 26+352 p. 4°, cl., **\$2.50 net.

COLBY, F. M., and CHURCHILL, A. L., eds. New international year book: a compendium of the world's progress for the year 1908. N. Y., Dodd, 1909. 776 p. O.

This valuable reference book presents concise information on subjects of general interest for the year 1908, in alphabetical arrangement with numerous illustrations and maps. Tabular statistics are included in many articles; among the subjects treated there is also a necrology for the year, and there are frequent cross references between subjects.

COSTUME, ECCLESIASTICAL. Nainfa, Rev. J. A. Costume of prelates of the Catholic Church according to Roman etiquette. Baltimore, Md., John Murphy Co., [1909.] c. 211 p. il. pls. D. cl., *\$1.50 net.

Bibliography (4 p.).

DE QUINCEY, THOMAS. Green, J. A., *comp.* Thomas De Quincey; a bibliography based upon the De Quincey collection in the Moss Side Library [Manchester, Eng., Public Free Libraries]. Manchester, 1908. 110 p. S.

This bibliography includes all the De Quincey items in the collection of the Moss Side Public Library, one of Manchester (Eng.) public free libraries. It also includes some titles not contained in the library's collection. These are indicated in a separate leaflet issued with the bibliography with the idea that it may aid in furnishing these missing titles to the collection. The De Quincey material in the Moss Side Library is remarkable in its completeness, and further interest is added to its value in the fact that the location of the library wherein the collection is housed is connected intimately with the history of the De Quincey family. The collection covers 405 items and includes rare issues. Each title in the bibliography is numbered and a general classification of entries has been given under the following headings: Bibliography; Chronological list; Collected works; Autographs and manuscripts; Editions of "Confessions of an English opium-eater"; Smaller collections; Biography and criticism; Scrap books, etc.; Portraits.

DISEASES, CONTAGIOUS, FROM FLIES. Merchants' Association of New York. The house-fly at the bar; indictment; guilty or not guilty?; evidence:— in the matter of the people *against* the common house fly. N. Y., Merchants' Association of New York, [1909.] 48 p. il. tabs., charts, Q. pap., gratis.

Bibliography (2 p.).

EVANS, C. American bibliography: a chronological dictionary of books, pamphlets and periodical publications printed in the United States of America from the genesis of printing in 1639 down to and including the year 1820; with bibliographical notes. In

6 v. v. 5, 1774-1778. Chic., privately printed for the author by the Blakely Press, 1909. 15+455 p. Q. cl., per v., \$15.

ETHICS AND PHILOSOPHY. Nottingham (Eng.) Free Public Libraries. Central lending library. Complete list of works in mental and moral science. Ed. 2. 1909. (price 1d.) Nottingham. 7 p. O.

For future additions to this list, which covers this subject in the collection in the library, see the Nottingham Library *Bulletin*.

FINE ARTS. Quaritch, Bernard. Catalogue of rare and valuable books on the fine arts. 2 pts. Lond., 1909. 96 p. O.

Pt. 1: Arundel Society; Books with colored plates illustrated by British artists; Boston Museum of Fine Arts; Burlington Fine Arts Club; Caricaturists; Catalogues of art collections and exhibitions; New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. Pt. 2: Books with colored plates illustrated by British authors (2); French illustrated books; Galleries; Medici colored reproductions of old masters.

FRENCH REVOLUTION. Christophelsmeier, C. H. The first revolutionary step [in France,] (June 17, 1789.) Lincoln, Neb., [University of Nebraska, 1909.] 87 p. 8°, (University studies.) \$1.

Bibliography (8 p.).

FRESH WATER ANIMALS. Byrnes, E. F. The fresh water *Cyclops* of Long Island. Brooklyn, N. Y., Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, 1909. 43 p. O. (Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences; Cold Spring Harbor monographs.) bds., 90 c.; pap., 80 c. Bibliography (1 p.).

GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS. Jenks, J. W. Principles of politics from the viewpoint of the American citizen. N. Y., Columbia University Press, 1909. c. 18+187 p. 12°, (Columbia University lectures, George Blumenthal foundation.) cl., *\$1.50 net.

Bibliography (2 p.).

GRIEG, EDVARD. Fink, H. T. Grieg and his music. N. Y., John Lane Co., (The Bodley Head,) 1909. c. 35+317 p. pls. pors. O. cl., **\$2.50 net.

Bibliography (4 p.). Catalog of Grieg's compositions (5 p.).

GYPSIES. Black, G. F. A gypsy bibliography, provisional issue, 1909. [Edinburgh,] printed privately for the members of the Gypsy Lore Society, Liverpool, by T. & A. Constable, [1909.] 4 p. 139 numb. 1. 25cm.

HIGH SCHOOLS. Brown, J. F. The American

- high school. N. Y., Macmillan, 1909. c. 12+462 p. tabs., fold. tab., D. cl., \$1.40 net.
- HOLMES, O. W. Oliver Wendell Holmes. [Reading list.] (*In* Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library *Bulletin*, May, p. 93-100.)
- ILLINOIS. Government. Schuyler, R. L. The transition in Illinois from British to American government. N. Y., Columbia University Press, 1909. c. 11+145 p. 8°, cl., \$1.25 net.
- List of the sources and secondary works cited (5 p.).
- ILLINOIS. Boggess, A. C. The settlement of Illinois, 1778-1830. Chic., Chicago Historical Society, 1908, [1909.] c. 267 p. maps, 8°, (Chicago Historical Society collections.) cl., \$3.
- Bibliography and index.
- INCUNABULA AND EARLY BOOKS. Catalogue of rare and valuable books printed in the 15th century and of books printed in England and books by English writers printed abroad, up to the year 1640. Lond., Ellis, 1909. 110 p. S. (price 6d.)
- INSURANCE. Nijhoff, Martinus. Catalogue de livres anciens et modernes sur les assurances. La Haye and N. Y., 1909. 28 p. O.
- JACKSON, Andrew. The statesmanship of Andrew Jackson as told in his writings and speeches; ed. by Francis Newton Thorpe. N. Y., Tandy-Thomas Co., [1909.] c. 538 p. O. (Principles of American statesmanship; ed. by Francis Newton Thorpe.) cl., \$2.50.
- Bibliography (2½ p.).
- JEWS IN LITERATURE. Calisch, Rabbi E. N. The Jew in English literature, as author and as subject. Richmond, Va., Bell Book and Stationery Co., 1909. 12°, \$2 net.
- The appendix gives a list of non-Jewish writers who have written about Jews (24 p.); and a list of Jewish authors classified chronologically who have written English books, with titles of works (44 p.). Bibliography (2 p.).
- JOAN OF ARC. [Special reading list.] (*In* Salem (Mass.) Public Library *Bulletin*, May, p. 92.)
- LABOR AND LABORING CLASSES. Edwards, R. H., ed. The labor problem. Madison, Wis., 1909. 49 p. S. (Studies in American social conditions, 4.)
- This is a pamphlet of 49 pages, 31 of which are devoted to a bibliography prepared by Miss Isabel True, class of 1909, Wisconsin Library School. This bibliography is a reprint of "American social questions," no. 3, of the publications of the Wisconsin Library Commission. In the introductory pages it is explained that this is one of a parallel studies of American social questions, in furtherance of the Social Problems Group Idea. Following the lead of the original group formed at Madison in 1906, groups of men are meeting throughout the county for the study of the following problems in their relation to society: Liquor, Negro, Immigration, Labor, Poverty, Excessive and concentrated wealth, Municipal government, Children of the cities, Increase of crime and the administration of criminal justice, Treatment of the criminal. The text of number 4 indicates the various aspects of the labor problem, thus giving the logical basis for subdivisions of the bibliography which follows. The bibliography is therefore practical, leading first to an understanding of what the problem is from the point of view of society as a whole, and from the employer's and the employee's viewpoint; and second, to a study of the proposed solutions of the problem. The frequent recurrence of the same authors under the different headings of the bibliography is not an indication of dearth of material, but rather of the care with which the material at hand has been digested.
- F. C. H.
- LINCOLN, Abraham. Booth, Mary Josephine. Partial bibliography of poems relating to Abraham Lincoln. (*In* Illinois State Historical Society *Journal*, v. 1, no. 4, January, p. 23-28.)
- MANUSCRIPTS. Beer (Rud.). Die Handschriften des Klosters Santa Maria de Ripoll. II. Wien, Hölder, 1908. In-8, 117 p. 12 pl. 7 fr. 90.
- Pavolini, P. E. I manoscritti indiani della Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze (non compresi nel catalogo dell'Aufrecht). Firenze, tip. Galileiana, 1907. In-8. 65 p.
- Robinson, J. A., and James, M. R. The manuscripts of Westminster Abbey. Cambridge, University Press, 1909. 108 p. O.
- Lists of the manuscripts in the various libraries of Westminster Abbey are given, with detailed bibliographical information. Biographical notes on the monks mentioned in these lists are frequently given.
- The manuscripts of the Chapter Library fill the most extensive list of the book and are divided into a list of manuscripts previously in the Chapter Library and into a list of those manuscripts now preserved in the Chapter Library.
- Facsimiles. Codices graeci et latini phototypice depicti. XII. Lucretius. Codex Vossianus oblongus phototypice editus.

- Praefatus est Aemilius Chatelain.* Leiden, Sijthoff, 1908. In-folio 12 p. et 384 pl. 300 fr.
- MATHEMATICS.** Quaritch, Bernard. Catalogue of books on astronomy, mathematics and physics. Lond., 1909. 32 p. O.
- MUSIC.** Dickinson, E. The study of the history of music, with an annotated guide to music literature. Rev. and enl. ed. N. Y., Scribner, 1908, [1909]. c. 15+415 p. 8°, cl., \$2.50 net.
Bibliographical supplement (18 p.).
- PARASITES.** Stiles C. W. Index-catalogue of medical and veterinary zoology. Subjects: *Trematoda* and trematode diseases; by Ch. Wardell Stiles and Albert Hassall. Wash., Govt. Print. Office, 1908. 401 p. 23cm.
- PERIODICAL LITERATURE.** Elenco delle pubblicazioni periodiche che pervengono in cambio (Istituto coloniale italiano: biblioteca). Roma, tip. Unione cooperativa editrice, 1909. 8°, p. 13.
- Mazzini (Ubaldo). Bibliografia della stampa periodica spezzina dal 1865 al 1908. Spezia, tip. F. Zappa, 1908. In-8, 48 p. 2 fr. 50.
- PHYSIOLOGY.** Hill, Leonard, ed. Further advances in physiology with diagrams. N. Y., Longmans, Green & Co., 1909. 7+440 p. O. cl., \$4.20 net.
Bibliographies.
- POE, E. A.** Complete poetical works; with three essays on poetry; ed., with memoir, notes and bibliography, by R. Brimley Johnson; with por. [N. Y., Oxford University Press, (Amer. Branch,)] 1909. 316 p. 12°, cl., \$75 c. net.
Bibliography.
- PSYCHOLOGY.** Vaughan, C. L., and Dunlap, Knight, comps. Psychological index, no. 15; a bibliography of the literature of psychology and cognate subjects for 1908. This bibliography is arranged on the usual plan. The number of titles listed this year is 3532.
- RAILROADS.** Cleveland, F. Albert, and Powell, Fred. Wilbur. Railroad promotion and capitalization in the United States. N. Y., Longmans, Green & Co., 1909. c. 14+368 p. O. cl., \$2 net.
Bibliography (52 p.).
- ROME.** Lang & Co. Catalogo 10: Roma. (Italia, pt. 3.) Year 3, no. 10, pub. bi-monthly. 187 p. [1909] S.
Old and rare books, maps and views.
- ROUSSEAU, Jean-Jacques.** Julie; ou, la nouvelle Heloise. Edition abrégée; avec préface de Frank A. Hedgcock. N. Y., Putnam, 1909. 20+216 p. por. S. (Les classiques français; ed. by M. H. Warner Allen.) limp leath., \$1 net.
Bibliography (2 p.).
- SEAMEN, BOOKS FOR.** Libreria per i marinari: catalogo compilato a cura della commissione permanente per le librerie dei marinari, approvato e edottato dal ministero della marina (Lega navale italiana: sezione di Firenze). Florence, Galileiana, 1909. 16°. 95 p.
- SOUTH AMERICAN BOOKS.** Brown University. Books printed in Lima and elsewhere in South America after 1800. [John Carter Brown Library.] Providence, R. I., Brown University, 1908, [1909.] 8 p. 4°, cl., 50 c.
Most of the books were secured by Mr. Brown from the library of Henri Ternaux-Compans. The books listed are from the period 1801-1839.
- TECHNICAL LITERATURE.** Birmingham Free Libraries (England). Occasional lists, no. 6: Books and pamphlets on trades, machinery, etc., in the reference library, part 2. Birmingham, 1909. 26 p. O.
- Library Association of Portland Free Public Library of Multnomah County. List of practical books on machine shop practice, foundry work and electricity. 1909. 33 p. Tt.
This practical little list covers a variety of topics, and gives date and edition of included titles.
- Louisville (Ky.) Free Public Library. List of practical books in the library on electricity, machine shop practice, foundry practice, plumbing and wood-working; comp. for the Southern Electrical and Industrial Exposition, Louisville, April, 1909. 32 p. S.
- Pratt Institute Free Library. Technical books of 1908: a selection. 30 p. D.
This list, compiled by Edward F. Stevens, the librarian of the Applied Science Department of the Pratt Institute Free Library, presents in this list books of the year that have recommended themselves for the purposes of the engineering and industrial collection maintained at this library.

Some new editions of well-known books have been included because the revisions have been so complete as to warrant special mention, and to justify replacement of earlier editions that may be already in hand.

TENNYSON, Alfred, *Lord*. Special reading list. (*In* Salem (Mass.) Public Library, *Bulletin*, June, p. 95-96.)

TURKEY. [Reference list.] (*In* Public Library of the District of Columbia *Monthly Bulletin*, June, p. 12.)

TURKEY IN EUROPE. [Special list.] (*In* Osterhout Free Library *Bulletin*, v. 8, no. 2, May, p. 14-16.)

VICAIRE, G. Manuel de l'amateur de livres du XIXe siècle (1801-1893). Paris, Rouquette, 1908. 383 p. In-8. 10 fr.

VIRGINIA. Board of Education. List of books for rural school libraries in the state of Virginia, issued by the Department of Public Instruction, 1909; every library purchased with state aid must be selected from this list. Richmond, Va., William Ellis Jones, 1909. 62 p. 8", pap., gratis.

WEREWOLF. Stewart, Caroline Taylor. The origin of the werewolf superstition. Columbia, Mo., University of Missouri, 1909. c. 37 p. Q. (University of Missouri studies; ed. by W. G. Brown; Social science ser.) pap. (Add. University for price.) Bibliography (2 p.).

IMPORTANT SALES CATALOGS

OLSCHKI, Leo S. Catalogue 69: Choix de livres anciens rares et curieux, pt. 10. Florence, 88 p. O.

Notes and Queries

WHY NOT "STOCK?"—

To the Editor of the Library Journal:

In the recently published annual report of the Providence Library, for the year 1908, an innovation was tentatively introduced which will probably be made permanent.

This is the employment (common in the English library reports) of the single word, "stock," to stand for "present number of volumes in the library."

When it is considered that it is a distinct advantage to make one word do the work of half a dozen it is a little remarkable that we have been so slow in this country to adopt this word, particularly since the one word, "circulation," has for many years stood in a similar way for "number of volumes issued during the year."

WILLIAM E. FOSTER.

PROVIDENCE, PUBLIC LIBRARY, JUNE, 10, 1909.

Humors and Blunders

TO A WOULD-BE LIBRARIAN.—"Genius," says Carlyle, "is an infinite capacity for taking pains."

This, like many of Carlyle's bombastic assertions, is a concession of veracity to a linguistic pirouette. Genius! The God-given breath of the immortals! The divine afflatus which marks the souls of the few for heights æsthetic while their mortal feet too unfitly tread the sordid ways of the many!

But apply the great historian's erudite definition to almost any good work in the world, short of genius, and it pretty nearly covers the whole ground.

Especially can this be said of library work, of which a tallying of cards and dates and numbers, is a constituent principal; and a systematic arrangement of books as to class and class as to shelves with utmost precision and exactitude, coupled with a vigilant eye for a volume out of place or a number at variance with its compeers, are absolutely essential to the harmonious working of the functional whole.

Hear me, then, ye aspirant to the honor of expanding the ranks of those who stand and wait,—on the public, and thereby serve, and begin with your grandsires, as a man must to become a gentleman.

Secure unto yourself the goodly heritage of gentle breeding, a manner pleasant, an air refined and a voice tuneful but undeniably low. Add to this a comely face and the knack of dressing well (if this knack is supplemented by the wherewithal to gratify it, so much the better), and you are fairly equipped with the first requirements. As to the amount of study and general reading which will be necessary to store your mind suitably, as an acholyte in the temple of learning, there is no limit set thereto, simply read and learn everything and have everything you do read and learn always on tap. So, if a neglected looking child thrusts upon you a paper on which is scrawled the one word "Augustus," you will know exactly on which volume of the copious history of the mighty Romans to lay your hand, and even be able to mark the chapter and paragraph for the neglected child, so that her mother can, without trouble or loss of time, copy out a few striking phrases to spout at the next meeting of the "Advanced Woman's Foot-loose Fraternity" and thereby appear as advanced as she thinks she is.

Or if there comes a demand, over the 'phone that a concise history of the Himalayas, or a dissertation on the Origin of Species be immediately poured into a long, furry ear at the other end of the line, this can be turned out as readily as flax from a reel.

And should some wag try to perpetrate on you a joke by asking for the Book of Hezekiah, you will know precisely where it is not.

And so, being thus qualified to successfully edit the *New York World*, or fill the Chair of Philosophy in the University of Chicago, should your soul still yearn for the humble duties of library assistant, with a possible emolument of a dollar and a half a day, if you have sufficient "pull" with the Board, and a determination that not even an earthquake could shake, you might take your chances with the rest.

AGNES MCENERY.

A LIBRARY ALPHABET: CLASS POEM

In library school things are done by a rule
Which we cannot forget if we try,
And all that pertaineth to us and our work
Is always arranged thereby.
For strict alphabetical order's the rule by which
we're learning to live,
So perhaps you can see how it comes readilic
To this tale that arrangement to give,
And when it is finished 'twill be most complete,
You can see for yourself 'twill be so,
For the joys and the strife of our library life
From A unto Z you will know.

A's *Annotations*, the notes we get out
For the reader to tell what the book is about,
And help him decide if he wants it, you know.
(He usually doesn't. Alas! This is so.)

B is for *Books*, our greatest delight,
As well as the cause of our woes and affright.
Bibliography, also beginning with B,
We make of all books on some subject, you see
(Alas, what a number there seemeth to be)!

C's *Cataloging*—those dear little cards
Which you'll see in the catalog, yards upon yards
Of beautiful printing, with periods just so.
If we get one in wrong, oh dear! but there's woe.

D is for *Drexel*, the school we adore,
Which, alas, soon we're leaving, returning no more.
E is *Drexel exams*, which we know well about,
For we take them to get in, to stay in, and get out.

F is cheap *Fiction*, the ignorant joy
E is *Drexel Exams*, which we know well about,
The librarian, who leads them by many a wile
From the dire Mrs. Southworth to Burke and
Carlyle.
G is the *Greatness* we hope to attain
Adding leaves to the garland of fair Drexel's fame.
H are our *Homes*, which we hope soon to see,
Though 'twill mean a sad parting, dear Drexel,
from thee.

I stands for the *Ink* which our labors require,
The quantity used is, to say the least, dire,
J are the *Juvenile* books, and we learn
The misguided minds of young hopefuls to turn
From the joys of "Old Sleuth" and "Dick Dead-
eye" delights
To Stevenson, Scott, and "Arabian nights."

K stands for the name of our teacher and head,
Who initiates us into mysteries dread
Of our great and high calling, the shelflist, D. C.,
Book numbers, accessioning, and dreaded E. C.

L is the *Library*—long may she live
Amusement and pleasure and profit to give;
M is the *Mending* we do to the books
(It can hardly be said that it adds to their looks).

N is for *Notes* that we took every day
Of everything all those who taught us would say
Till our pens and our pencils wore out by the way.

O is for *Oil* of the Midnight variety
Which we burned every night, and refused all
society,
While we crammed Cutter's Catalog Rules to satiety.

P is for *Public*, whose hearts we must fill
With a passion for Ruskin and John Stuart Mill

When they beg for "Best Sellers" with love, gore
and thrill.

Q is for *Quizzes* we frequently took—
We were scared till you'd think we'd not had one
small look
Even at the outside of a reference book.

R is for *Reference* books that we learned
All the tricks and the manners of, till our brains
turned:

If anyone asks us for memoirs of cats;
Or the latest descriptions of bargains in hats;
Or the habits of pigs or psychologists, or
The date of a battle in any old war;
Or the name of Job's turkey or Adam's off ox,
Or a tailor's address, or the signs of smallpox;
Or the why of the whiteness of Kant's oversoul,
We can hand him some book which will tell him
the whole.

For anything anyone ever has sought
We know how to locate at once—or we ought.

S is for *Salaries*, which were the theme
Of many a pensive and unaided dream—
And for stirring addresses at various times
By various people from various climes
On the noble rewards which library work brings—
(But it isn't in money or any such things.)

T stands for *Trips* which we took all around
Wherever a library was to be found;
They walked us by catalogs many and vast
And their patent improvements they showed as we
passed;
They lunched us, and tea'd us, with words kind
and cheery
Till we came back instructed and pleased, but so
weary.

U stands for *Uplift* we've learned to bestow
On whoever may need it wherever we go.
We're to purify politics, ventilate slums,
Wake a love for the True and the Noble in bums,
And town sewing circles we're taught so to handle
That they'll much prefer civics to tea-table scandal.
We're going to do it, and make it all last
By means of the Volumes we scatter broadcast.

V's for *Variety*, which, on the whole,
Is the charm of our duties. We're told they may
roll
From writing deep essays to shovelling coal.
W's for *Washington*, where we all went,
On mental improvement and sightseeing bent,
We saw ten libraries and one large President.

X stands for *Xams*, which we took with great fre-
quency
Till cramming and quizzes had lost all their
piquancy.
We had them until, as we finished, we swore
That to get into Heaven we wouldn't take more.
(Under E we have mentioned these ordeals before.)

Y stands for the *Year* which at Drexel we've stayed
Acquiring hard facts till we were quite dismayed
To discover how weary our intellects weighed.

Z stands for *Zeal* which we're trained to possess
If we want to be helpful and make a success
And guide the whole Public to learn and progress

Now this ends the rhymes of our library times—
We are sad, after all, that they're done;
There was plenty of work which we couldn't well
shirk.

But, besides, there was plenty of fun.
Leisure moments were few, with an hour's work to
do

Every minute we wanted to rest,
But we've learned such a lot that it can't be forgot,
Though we part for North, South, East and West.

By EMILY S. GLEZEN and MARGARET WIDDEMERE,
Drexel Institute Library School, Class of 1909.

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